Page 1

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^
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$%^$t n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rvously.

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt strod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&stur%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$.

I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cool, d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk st$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy rhythm of th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd snorting of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&x%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inst$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly. I pluck%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$zz$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$'s brush from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n combing through h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r smooth, co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l-bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whinni%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ci#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r st%^&

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$%^$d him.

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"Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you don't know, boy!" F$#$
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why you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$? I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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brushing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r so h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "I think Octob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$hind him.

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Page 2

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 2

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt

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%^$^$%^$rnoon, I found mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf sitting
on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& stiff, low-b$#$
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$^$%^$d v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I shift
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, trying to find $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first fift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only sound th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ hollow cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cking of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id's knitting n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.
I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, trying to find som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$thing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout h

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson to complim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dimpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r chin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rlob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd symm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tric$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. From th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nkl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$low th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, it s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^lic#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ structur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in shot up my l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g. I l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cry, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tiny, copp%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-color%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d dog $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ siz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d its point%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ skin of my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nkl%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Oh, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nny. P %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nny's just s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying hi, isn't sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$?" Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn coo%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, scooping up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ tiny $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l into h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dog st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, continuing to b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ its t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th. I inch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d f $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck in my s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s, uh, v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ry nic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though I didn't und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^rst#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ point of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dog th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. Dogs w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suppos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nions th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t could k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p you comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hunt, not orn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts to m
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ furnitur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Isn't sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, though?" Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d up in r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ptur%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s my v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st
fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I must s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, I'm t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrifi
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
going outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ now, with $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ports of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l murd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs!"

"I'm t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling you, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so fright%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d!" Mrs. C
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright jump%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in, running h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bodic%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ss. "I don't und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rst#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd this world. It's simply not m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt for us wom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$n to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n go outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"I hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r it is do%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sn't
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck us. Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s I'm sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p foot outdoors, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n it's light," Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, clutching P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$nny tightly to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dog y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd jump%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d off h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p. "I'd di%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nny. "

"I'm sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$'ll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ning on f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms, not in
town," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lfh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly trying to comfort h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$r.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r shrill voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d to chid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring during church. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pinch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion
look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d just suck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon. "Don't you think Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn looks %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ci$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful tod$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y?"

"Oh, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," I li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d. Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&b brown dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$ss th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r brownish blond h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. Loos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ ringl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skinny should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rs. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r outfit w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct contr
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rlor, which w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^cor#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d with o$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k
furnitur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, broc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk-color%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$d
Ori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l rugs th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rl#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming wood
floor. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, ov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rbl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& portr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it of Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn %^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion on his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngul$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t him curiously. In contr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st to his wif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ight $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d-f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ghostly p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd skinny--$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd slightly d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous-looking, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ vultur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n circling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Consid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring who h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll.

Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn blush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I shift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on

th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ j%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lry box in
my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I'd
gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring l
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st night, wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p wouldn't com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cogniz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d it inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly. It w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ld circl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by
di$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&monds, m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$st cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ftsm%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nic%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd worn by my moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r until th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ di
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"So, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n? Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t do you think of pink?" Ros$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, br%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out
of my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"I'm sorry, wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, distr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright shot m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n irrit$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d look.

"Pink? For th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dinn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k? It's so kind of your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n it," Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bright r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor.

"I think pink would look d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lightful on you. Y ou'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful no m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctor r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& script. Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pprovingly. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dog r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd jump%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d onto $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pillow n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt
to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n stroking its co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ room f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt hot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd humid. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ cloying, comp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ting sc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts of Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rfum
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d spin. I sn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntiqu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r clock in
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r. I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
for only fifty-fiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ minut%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t it might
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n fifty-fiv%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs.

I stood up, my l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs wobbling b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. "It h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n lov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly visiting with you, Mrs. $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Miss C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright, but I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ lo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th to t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$st of your $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnoon. "

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you. " Mrs. C$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright nodd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, not rising from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy will show you out," sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, lifting h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r chin tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s now dozing ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r knitting.

I br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f $#$%^&*)
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$ft th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$; I would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d by w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two mil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s hom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sun w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ginning to sink into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ horizon, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll of hon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ysuckl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vily in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir.

I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rit#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I strod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hill. Blooming lili%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s surround%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nking th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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front door. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ columns of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
porch glow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d or$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting
sun, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond's mirror-lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ surf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y sound of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. This w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my hom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
it.

But I couldn't im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring it with Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. I shov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds in my
pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngrily kick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ston%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curv %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d.

I p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I r%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ntr#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ driv%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n unf$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mili$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding. I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with curiosity--w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d visitors--$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&chm$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n jump%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ driv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&b. A b%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful, p$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ wom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n with c$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk curls st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& billowing whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, cinch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rrow w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ist with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch-color%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ribbon. A m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&top h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, obscuring h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

As if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful; sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sublim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n from $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nty p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, I could

s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s flick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pink lips curving into $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thin fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rs touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$o n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ckl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I found mys%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf mirroring th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gining wh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd would f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on my own skin.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, who must h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&b $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n fussing with h%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skirts.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo!" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo . . . ," I cro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. As I br
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, I sm
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy combin$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion of ging%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon.

"I'm K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Pi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. And you
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$?" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yful. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s tongu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-ti
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&uty. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r I
should b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mortifi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d or th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nkful
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
slowly, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d told m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ story of $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$nd of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fri
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd down in Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&. His n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ighbors h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir hous
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
during G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rm#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only
survivor h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sixt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n- y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r-old girl with no r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tions. Imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ly, F#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to bo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girl in our c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll sound%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rious $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd rom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntic, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n F $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r told m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w in his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s how much h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$njoy %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ id %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& of s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rving $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$scu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to this young orph$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n.

Page 3

"Y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing. "And you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . . "

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id quickly. "St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Gius %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s son. I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m so sorry for your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily's tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dy. " "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. In $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd somb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "And I th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for hosting m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, Emily. I don't know wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ don%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ without

you. "

"Y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "You'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Would you lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to show you?"

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll find it ours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, following th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&chm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, who c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trunk tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, which w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bit from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd st$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. "Or should I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll you S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vior St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wink b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turning on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$l.

I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w
my lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 3

August 21, 1864

I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n't stop thinking $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I will not %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n writ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$; I d$#$

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I'm
with Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, I $#$
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know it would not m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwrights if D$#$
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But wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I must b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ strong. I must tr%^&%^
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must f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll in lov%^&%^
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But I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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thought to mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf th%^&%^
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$%^$ins.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$light. If I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d comforting.

I tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of my n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck stood on w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of my n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck stood on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nd, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I got th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ un%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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Unbidd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rt's w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rnings $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking off on my own flo$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through my mind.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo?" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. St$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fl$#$
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$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ driv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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sunbonn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ivory

skin $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss dott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with tiny ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$buds. D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir skin look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cool $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r morning.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, displ$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight, whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th. "I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tour of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ grounds, but it s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rwis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ng#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "

My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt pound%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word "%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ng#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d," th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring box in my b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding iron. "I'm not . . . no. I m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, "I could st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"Nons%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shook h
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$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I will
not t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
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$^$%^$ll. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brow $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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N%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. I f
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sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rwh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lming urg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to whip th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ring from my pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r it to K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I
thought of F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y put.

"M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk with you for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bit?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
swinging h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sun umbr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ll#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nion$#$%^&*)
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%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ro
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. I k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing to my l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$ft $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd right, wond
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring why sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ didn't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$m n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rvous to w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk, un$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ni%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, with
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rh#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd so utt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rly
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world.
Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&son, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ful for it.

A light wind bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round us, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I inh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mony ging
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though I could di%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss,
right th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$, n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Simply b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$ing n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mind%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&uty $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ did
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xist in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ world, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n if I couldn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m.

"I think I sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll you Sil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clust%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of o$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ vill$#$
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$%^$ of Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
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$%^$s.

"I'm sorry . . . ," I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s dull to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "It's simply th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ don't g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t v%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs in Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. It's difficult to sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k to som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who do%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $sn't know my whol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ history. I suppos %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I don't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to bor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you. Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, I'm sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you find Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bit qui%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. " I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt mortifi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s soon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft my lips. H %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d di%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d in Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king it sound lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ft som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$xciting lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to liv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. "I m
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th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you wouldn't %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$njoy g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xciting,
or th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you wouldn't
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$tting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything. "

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
ton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ topic $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny furth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$w long mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts. I k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt my strid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lib%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#
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$^$%^$ly short so K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
could k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$p up. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r by $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ccid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt or
by d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sign I'm not sur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
brush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cold
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ humid
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. "Just so you know,"
sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, "I don't find $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout you boring. "

My %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
body fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& confl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up th

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if trying to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rt#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st rout%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for us to follow, though r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s hiding my blush from K$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ight
of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring in my pock%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, I'm not %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
But sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
by my sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d, shi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lding my %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lilting l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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up in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rbrush $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long th
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cho of my own voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Page 4

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 4

I didn't c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll on th%^&
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st by som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, though, I found h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch
swing, ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tting with h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r run
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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$counting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whirling thoughts in my
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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At th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t mom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt, K#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "B$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$d to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slid off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
porch swing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd glid
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Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt flo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n wors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$
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%^$^$%^$ first c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll.
Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t right b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ couch,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I shift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s gl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cting m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to t$#
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$^$%^$ out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond.
I'd chok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ qu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stions $#$
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$%^$ progr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& F%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls,
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^ssm#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on Ros$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's pink gown. But no
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r how much I tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xcus
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ so I could visit with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, I mutt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
out p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st d$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk. According to Rob%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ right
outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I got to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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$ op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n windows of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n of th

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$! Y ou n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to go
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with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, proud, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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kitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it out loud. I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skin on his n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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blows.

"Broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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not finish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, D#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tr%^&%^
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study.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "I s
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$^$%^$r's th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$t b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, ch#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ subj%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slight lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t no on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$unl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w him w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll.

"An hour $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&go. I couldn't miss my young%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ng$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnounc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, could I?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& slight hint of s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sm in his voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r told m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout it. S%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding on you to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rry on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$. And just think, by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Found%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs B$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, you'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& husb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd!"

I stiff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I'd forgott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nning it for months. P$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fit, p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n opportunity for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$njoy th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp of summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mostly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs to p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv

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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bun $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ck. I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly compl
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ hollow of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thro$#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing my fing%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs through h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r

d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^lic#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n kissing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ck.

I forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, this is my
broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, D#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, this is K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Pi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying with us," I s$#$
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m to g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's r%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$ found my form$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$dibly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&musing. So did

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s your broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d South%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& phr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girls in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ county would us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, it sound%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly mocking coming from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'ll s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "So, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, sh#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y?"

"I don't know," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sit#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rul%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s?"

"Who n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds rul%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, fl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing "Who n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds rul%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, fl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& grin th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight, whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th.

I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll in my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. "My broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys rough," I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Page 5

"Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how I think I pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y rough%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. " In on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ swoop, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll from my gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp. As th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vious d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cold, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnoon. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r touch s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& jolt of %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rgy through my body $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up to my br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. "Los%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to groom my hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s!" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind whipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r run, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brow tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& girl who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d. " With th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon dug his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, his pow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rful body hurtling down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hill tow
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond.

Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond, I r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, too. I f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind
whip $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round my %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs. "I'll g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
you!" I y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& phr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ight $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to comfort h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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$ front room. Not %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mis, Moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h$#$
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%^$^$%^$ put down.

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%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dog?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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ou h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndsom%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id fondly. Ann$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spitting im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r moth %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y stood sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ by sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ two look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y could b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$rs.

"Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, you look mor %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful %^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you old %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ going to d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t?" D $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& twinkl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. I smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to ch$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm both $#$%^&*)(*&^

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Page 6

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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rford or
Am%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. As w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st, on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m brush%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rn#$
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"Y lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wood%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n

ou t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d smil
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on his f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"I suppos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I do. " I plunk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd wood%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nch $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd surv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
surroundings onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing in
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn, I f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt I'd stumbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t soci%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ty of m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, just

on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
thing I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I'd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
discov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t hom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning. "I'll g
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t us som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ drinks," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king his w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
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$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lbows on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ count%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sily t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, who tilt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ugh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$'d s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id som %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing hil$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rious. Which h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ prob$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's why $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll wom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n f %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll in lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ with him.

"So, how do%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s it f%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?"

I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. W %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll into his s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nti%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $s, Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s slightly s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $nil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd oft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n loudly procl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&im%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who'd list%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t his long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $vity w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s du%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xclusiv%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly to his prodigious indulg%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in whisk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y.

"Not m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t,

Doctor. " I smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tightly, wishing D$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon would com%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck with our drinks.

"Ah, my boy, but you will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Mr. C$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n discussing it for w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ks. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir young Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. Quit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch!" Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s continu
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d loudly. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round, hoping no on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

At th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t mom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt, D#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t our
whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ys on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, drinking min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ down in on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gulp. Dr. J$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s hobbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t thirsty, huh?" D
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, t
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll sip of his own drink.

I shrugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st, I'd n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r k
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts from my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. But t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout Ros$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lt d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous. Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$how, no m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id or f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt, I
still h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rry h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. If $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n inkling of r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$'d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ no %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$nd to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk.

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w whisk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d in front of m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I gl$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d up to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$tty b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r D$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r our t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y look lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d this. S%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms you'v%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& rough d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. " Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id wink%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting tumbl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rough-h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wn wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$n t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in front of m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," I s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ful sip.

"Anytim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
crinolin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skirts swishing ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r hips. I w
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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wom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with
loos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
put#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tions, w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
mind w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$s you," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon obs %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "You know I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n't look. By th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ you %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd of summ%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, I'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Y ou, m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nwhil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to do $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s you pl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " I'd m %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt it to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n obs%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& judgm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's tru%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "But you do know you don't h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ to do som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing just b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys so, right?"

"It's not th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t simpl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " I cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nch
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my j$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon couldn't und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^rst#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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much so th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t F$#$
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$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntrust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ young
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r, with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ futur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ of V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rit#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& rol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I now
found stifling.

A sliv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t this thought--th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$r so much r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sponsibility. I shook my
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if trying to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r drink
of whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y.

"It's v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, oblivious to my mom
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Just t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll him you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to find your own pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s ord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rs blindly. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmy: Y h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$rwis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, ou wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
point?"

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "I'm not lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$ you. I trust F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. And I know h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ only w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.
It's just th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I wish . . .
I wish I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d mor%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. M$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ I could grow to lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ros$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, but th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thought th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I could b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& child in just on%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ short y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with dr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "But it'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id with fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lity. It h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t do you think of
our n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st?" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
subj%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon smil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ full thr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ syll$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it on his
tongu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Now, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& girl who's
difficult to figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out, don't you $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"

"I suppos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon didn't "I suppos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, gl$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon didn't know th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming of K$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t night, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd by d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&using $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door to
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if I could h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#

$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ughing
with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id; onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, Clov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r, just to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ging
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d ling%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. It h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt,
in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rn surround%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s, I'd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d how
unb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d I
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$coming.

"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y don't m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girls lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in
Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. Do you
think sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r som
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"No!" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnoy%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. "Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s in
mourning for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts. I h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rdly think sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s looking for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&u. "

Page 7

"Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon knit his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brows tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r contrit%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly. "And I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $suming $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything. But if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to cry on, I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy to l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd it to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "

I shrugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$n though I'd brought up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ subj%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon thought of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r. In f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct, $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, I $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost wish%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r-flung r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ston or Richmond or Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& would st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p
forw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd to invit%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to liv%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m.
If sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out of sight, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I could som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$how forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lf to lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon st$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w in
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t mom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt how mis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ I must h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
"Ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
up, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night is young, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y's on m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. "

But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll of Virgini$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ros$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn . . . or forg%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 6

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r didn't br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k by my %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ng#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt dinn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$w d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ o'clock in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnoon th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s hot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd humid. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ kitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, I'd ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts gossiping th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ str$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$, still w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sult of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l-killing d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$mons. But discussion of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons did not stop p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ county coming to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ H$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll to c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Conf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cy. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$yond th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ driv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd show%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d no sign of slowing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ir onsl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ imposing ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ structur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

As my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t hit dirt, I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w Ell

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Em%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rson $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, D#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm, tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by two
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ids. Hundr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds of l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rns lit th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wood
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n doors, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s lin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curv
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lkw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. I could h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ins of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltz coming from insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll.

"Mrs. Em%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy. " I bow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ply. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to push h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
into Willow Cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$k.

"Why, if it isn't th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gorg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ous Em%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson l
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&di%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso bowing. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you to both of you for coming to this
sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll supp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. It's so good to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in
town. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, now mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching Ell%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Em%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson's
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, nodding
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy. Y look mor%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n

ou you pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n for his wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d youth?"

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. I sigh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ry or intrigu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in Mystic F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If Ros$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d, our childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n would b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing with D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy's childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ conv%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rs#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tions, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ jok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fights.
And th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cycl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ would continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnity.

"Ell%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, would you do m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ honor of
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to show you insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$?" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nxious to m$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^cor#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ccording to his
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cting sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$cific$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tions. D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy's moth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft und%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tchful g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Em%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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"Miss Em%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ going insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to find your m $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy's m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrupt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, tugging D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ doubl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ doors of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ H $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room. I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch pl$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s s%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$t with Moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's d%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^lic#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ur-d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-lis chin $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pping his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$r, "$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy? Y h$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything

ou you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d?"

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"Y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. " I touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring in my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn stood n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tightly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts. Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, still r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from crying ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r poor P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nny, cl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d horribly with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rsiz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, frilly pink dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring.

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punish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for it by b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b
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Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ surg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$motion by downing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ full gl$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th
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by h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lf? And w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't D$#$
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broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?

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only if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d two f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, but th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ith%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. And
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n D$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon wouldn't go so f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r didn't
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pprov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of. Right?

Still, I couldn't t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n muslin dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss
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hoop skirts, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&
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murmur $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpty s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpty s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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own. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r hip brush%^&%^
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I shift%^&%^
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"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. " F$#$%^&*)
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$r nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t down to his l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ft.

"So do you think th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmy will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y down to G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $orgi$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& by wint%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Jon$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h P$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r loudly, simply b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I didn't trust mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k to K$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r music$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I might los%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$rv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to propos%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn.

"I'm not worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$orgi $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&. Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout is g%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ militi $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tog%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to solv%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ probl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks will not b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ stood for," Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h,
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ining th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls militi$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id loudly, pounding his fist on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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do for our boys in gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. This w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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clutching his ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp$#
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own. I tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd gripp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss so tightly, I w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it would br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k. "Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, I'd lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk your h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd in m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#

$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Will you
do m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ honor?" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id in $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& rush, fumbling in my suit
pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ ring.

I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ box $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt down in front of Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ry brown %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$s. "For you," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id without infl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ction, flipping op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lid $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd holding it out tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn shri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ room burst into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&
sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p my b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon grinning down on m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d polit
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n unr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion on h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " I
took Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's tiny
whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd push%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s too l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ld roll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lopsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pinki%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& child pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss-
up with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r's j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$lry. But Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn didn't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ ring didn't fit. Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld out h%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ di$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&monds c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ptur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ light of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Imm
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& crush of wom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n surround%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
us, cooing ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ ring.

"This do%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^br#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion!" my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d out. "Cig$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, St
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, son! Y ou'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ proud f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kily st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
to him. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ironic th

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t whil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt my
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lif
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trying to g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$t my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pprov$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l, wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ him h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$st w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, will you d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ din of scr
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ping ch$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd clinking gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I stopp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iting for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsw%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d up, c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sting
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& furtiv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look in my dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ction. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ld my own for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long
mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. A wild urg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to rip th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring
off Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's fing%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it on K$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rtook m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nudg
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
from b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I could r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct, D$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r out to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 7

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k p $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& blur. I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n from fittings $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Mrs. F%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls's dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss shop to visits with Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwrights' stuffy p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rlor to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$rn with D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. I tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to forg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving my shutt%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so I wouldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$mpt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to look $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd forcing mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$lf to smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xplor %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g

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down to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ry Bridg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r to div%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ icy d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pths of
Willow Cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$k. Now I just wish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, so I could b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my room.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to sh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& whisk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"
Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out to
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$shift b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up on
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ portico. To judg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from his lopsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d grin, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy drunk.

H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting tumbl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
his own to min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Pr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tty soon, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
young S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n you pictur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it?" H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^xp#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ly ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ grounds $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if to show m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ just how much room my im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in which
to grow.

Page 9

I swirl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my whisk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y mis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly, un$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to pictur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it for mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lf.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, you'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ddy on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
lucky m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. And Ros$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn on%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lucky girl," Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rt s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his gl$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss to m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$nt to ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t
with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Lockwoods' ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

I sigh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t down on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ porch swing, obs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rving th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt occurring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I
kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I should f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r only w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st for m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s nothing wrong with Ros$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn.

So why did this %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ng#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?

On th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn, p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up of my
childhood fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nds Eth$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Giffin, Bri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lsh, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$tt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pl$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rsion of
"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Bonni%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ Blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g. " Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sky
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cloudl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmy, with just $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& slight nip in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mind
us th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, ind%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, schoolchildr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
swinging $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd shri%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$king on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. To b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round so much m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt--$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt for m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt thud h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vily in my ch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.

St$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding up, I w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's study.
I shut th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sigh of r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f. Only th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st str
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m of sunlight p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy d$#$%^&*)
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room w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cool $#$
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%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d of w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ll-oil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd musty books. I took out $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& slim volum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ of Sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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thought I und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rstood.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's how th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ go%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s for Mr. Sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s simply $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sking you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& qu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stion. Sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y? Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you worthy of th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rison, Mr. S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? Or do you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& book to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, grinning $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ volum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ just out of my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch.

I cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my thro $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, my mind r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing witty in r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$spons%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, without %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n thinking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout it. But wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& schoolboy who tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to impr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& girl with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& frog c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, you could comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. Y ou'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lot of tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with him. " My f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly I wish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d I could t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. I sound%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lous $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tty.

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thund%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rstorms in th%^&%^
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& grin crossing h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to know D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, but I b $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ly know you. It's quit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, don't you think?"

In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd struck up "I'm $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& Good Old R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l. " I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$w I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$t b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck outsid%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, to smok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cig$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r with Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright, to twirl Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& first w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltz, to to$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st my pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n of Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. But inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d I r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r club s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, wishing I could st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ libr $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry, br%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.
Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$r-bound book, Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Myst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of Mystic F

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& volum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. A smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lit h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-color%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lips, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ckon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to join h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's couch. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I shouldn't, but $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I stood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cross%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room. I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cool, cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cushion n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd just l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t go.

Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, who kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w? P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lm I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ light c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ book. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to l%^&%^
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but wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r I thought of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ music $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ point, gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing up from Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ Myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s of Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls.

"No, I'm not. "

"Why? Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you distr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d?" K$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tching $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up to pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ book b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ put it in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wrong spot, n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's world g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ogr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&phy books.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ching b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ book $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ high sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll of l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ging%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r surround%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l wobbly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dizzy. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Our lips w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$inch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$ compl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ if I didn't kiss K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in until my lips gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.

For $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, it f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though my %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lif%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d click%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
into pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ running b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lds b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, our young son slung ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly unbidd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n im$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ of P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nny, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t torn
out, flo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through my mind. I pull%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if struck by lightning.

"I'm sorry!" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ning b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tripping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d high with F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's volum
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
floor, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sound muffl%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ori
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l rugs. My mouth t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ iron. Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d I just don%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$? Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t if my f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d com%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r to op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ humidor with Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright? My br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in whirl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$d
in horror.

"I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to . . . I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to go. I h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ to go find my fi$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc?%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "
Without $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stunn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$, I fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpty cons%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tory $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n.

Twilight w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s just b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ginning to f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. Co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting off with moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd young
childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utious r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs who
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks. Now w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ liquor would flow, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd would pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
loudly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd girls would
outdo th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltzing, int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nt to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ptur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of $#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& Conf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ soldi%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt
my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$turning
to norm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. No on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n,
much l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d don%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I strod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ purpos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$fully into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$filling my gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon sitting with oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rs, pl#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& round of pok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch. Fiv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girls w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ squ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d onto th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch swing, giggling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking loudly. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$sturing in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shion, no doubt t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fits of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright-S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wond
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sts of honor w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. No r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct for th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs," Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt s$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id jovi$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly.

"Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's still not h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Y know how girls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ to look just

ou right, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^ci#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly if th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$br$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ir imp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding m$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," Rob%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id.

His words r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng tru%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n un%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^xpl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of f%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r rush%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down my spin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$.

W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it just m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, or h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sun s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly quickly? Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to sh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dowy figur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fiv%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ minut%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't m
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ out D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon
within th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ group in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind, I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lbow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$sts. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s
odd for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& girl to not
show up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r own p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty. Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t if, som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$how, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n . . .

But th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s impossibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s dr$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
briskly tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond,
wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ir own p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty, to s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if Ros
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's co$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&chm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rriv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moon r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, c#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, gr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nish glow on
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rocks $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd willow tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s surrounding th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
with d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd still tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d footb$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$-high mist m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wish I w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring my boots inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of my dr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss sho%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

I squint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. At th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ willow
tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt
hours climbing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s
childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^n, w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dowy lump on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ ground, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, gn$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ root. Only I didn't r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ root in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t spot. I squint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. For $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, I
wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d if it could b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir of int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rtwin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs, trying to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sc#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ prying
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. I
smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lf. At l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$on
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d found lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t this p$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty.

But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ clouds shift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft of moonlight illumin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ form
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th it. I r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sick%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning jolt th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't two lov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs in mid-%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^mbr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$troth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t torn out, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, st
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring up $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t to
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& univ%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ no long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r inh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bit%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 9

It's difficult for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$scrib%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts th$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t follow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r footf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir qu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. I r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying on my kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lling out of horror $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright pulling m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d loudly, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l.

I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ polic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon wringing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ir h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd whisp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$s in trying to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lop th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for my c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk, to t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But I couldn't form th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words.

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At on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ point, Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s hook %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmpits $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. Slowly, m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$n I didn't know surround%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts' qu$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rs. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $, words w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ mumbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for. "I'm . . . I'm fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mb#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t so much $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntion w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Shhh, now, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
worry. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to my ch
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r und%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n pull
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tiny vi$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
voluminous folds of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skirt. Sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ unc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it to my lips. "Drink," sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& liquid th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ licoric%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n down my thro$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I whimp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my own mouth, but not b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion cross
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s f$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
Quickly, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with mor%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ licoric
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d liquid. I dropp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch, too tir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d to think $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nymor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"His broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r is h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$," Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, sounding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rw
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. "F%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tch him. "

I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sound
of footf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. His f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ with shock.

"Will h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ ok$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y?" D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
turning to Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&.

"I think . . . ," Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.
Qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. A d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk room," Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&uthorit$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon nodd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"I'm . . . Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn . . . I should h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . . ," I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though I didn't know how to finish th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Should h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t? Should h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ looking for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding my tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kissing K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? Should h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ insist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$scorting h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty?

"Shhh," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, hoisting m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up. I m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kily, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ him. From out of nowh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ld my oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltingly m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to st
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
porch $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rs stood on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss, holding %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff
Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out for
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ militi$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rch in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt D
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon guiding m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck door of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
to coll$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ cotton sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ts, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nothing
but d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt morning, I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wok%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms of sunlight sc$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrywood floorbo$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds of my b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$droom.

"Good morning, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. " D$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sitting in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ rocking ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$long to Gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t-gr$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Our moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d rock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us in it wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts, singing songs to us $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt to sl%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p. D$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bloodshot, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sitting lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll night.

"Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d?" I voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
it $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& qu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stion,
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
though th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s obvious.

"Y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon stood up, turning to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cryst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l pitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lnut dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
pour%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r into $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tumbl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld it
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I struggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
sit upright.

"No, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y," D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon comm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&uthority of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmy offic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.
I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd him sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ goos
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-down pillows $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d D$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon to bring th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss to my lips $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n inf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cool,
cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r liquid slipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d down my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd onc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, I thought b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st night.

"Did sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inful s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ri
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rching through my br$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. Whil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$citing Sh$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, Ros$#$
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t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th glist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moonlight. I shudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon cross%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd put his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rush of t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrifying im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th usu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns in l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I'm sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for your Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck in his ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd rubb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y think it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& coyot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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his d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d diff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. As
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$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$thing t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rribl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. As though sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$'d suff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d horribly.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 10

S%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 4, 1864

Midnight. Too l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p, too %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly to b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ burns on my nightst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flick
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$boding.

I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&unt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy. Will I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r forgiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf for not finding Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn until it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s too l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? And why is sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ --th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I vow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to forg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t--still on my mind?

My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d is pounding. Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& is $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door, off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring drinks, loz%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, powd%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rbs. I t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$cup%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting child. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$y think I'm $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p. Do th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y know of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ nightm$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s?

I thought m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wors%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wrong. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wrong $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout so m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny things, too m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny things, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y for forgiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how, som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I c$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n summon

str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pths of my

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p
firmly onto th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th

of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ right $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. I will do it. I must.

Page 12

For Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn.

And for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Now I will blow out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd

hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p--lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d

--to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngulf m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ quickly. . . .

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n! Tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up!" my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, sl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mming my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$droom door.

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t?" I struggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to sit, not sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t hour it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, or wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, or how much tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into
night, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I could n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r r
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p, only doz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
into t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrifying dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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wouldn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything, %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Cord%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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to com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into my room with h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r concoctions, spoon-f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$m to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nsur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d chick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$
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$%^$d suff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w which sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& drink this tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, on my nightst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. I dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk it quickly.

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy. Alfr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d will h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp you
pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^p#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," my f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id.

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy for wh$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
swinging my l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs onto th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor. I hobbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mirror. I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d stubbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my chin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wny h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir stood up on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nds. My
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r stood b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction. "Y ou'll pull yours%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Tod$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y is Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vil th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's scourging our town. "

Whil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout d

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons, I thought $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ C
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwrights for th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I
still f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt horribly guilty. I couldn't h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp thinking th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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porch, inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ring in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study with K$#$%^&*)
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$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, I would h$#$
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$^$%^$r pink dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. M$#$%^&*)(*&^
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could h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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too, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wouldn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to confront th$#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t nightm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ on," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in, holding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n shirt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suit I'd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dding--$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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church wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mourning Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mony %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&blishing our union. Still, I
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suit,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh
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%^$^$%^$, sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my h$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lp m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to do.

I k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t up front, n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d, whil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck with m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"How $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?"
D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mili$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r clip-clop of Duk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd J$#$
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$%^$'s hoov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s down Willow Cr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k Ro$#$
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"Not v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ll," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id form$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& stiff lump in my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon put $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s buzz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gold%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
glow on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ging%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll of guilt
ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lusting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--could n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--my wif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$.

"Your first d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first
on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you witn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ss, ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s you," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch pull%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pbo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd church. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ church b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ringing, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry busin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ss in town w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. "But p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps it c$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you for
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "

"M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sc%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch. But I didn't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ how.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s hobbl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ church, his c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk of whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$y in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sitting tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, his
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lbows p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ of P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl's p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w, just
inch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s in his usu$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond p
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^w, gl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clust
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of roug%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d wom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn who h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cts. At th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir circl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Alic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, cooling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& silk f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n.

C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lvin B$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y, th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ org$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nist, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion of Moz$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt's R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$qui
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, but h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to hit $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sour not%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w chords. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ front p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w, Mr. C$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d str$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, whil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright sobb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd occ$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sion$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rchi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f. At th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ front of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
church, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& clos%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d o$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t w$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with flow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. Wordl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssly,
I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt down in front of it.

"I'm so sorry," I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, touching th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, which f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt
cold $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd. Unbidd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^n, im#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$troth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d popp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d up in my mind: Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn giggling ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$w puppy, giddily discussing flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
combin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tions for our w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dding, risking th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ wr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th of h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id by pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt kiss
on my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$k $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd of on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ visit. I mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds off th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd put th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "I hop
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nny h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ found %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in
H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. " I l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down, l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting my lips gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to know, wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to lov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.
"Good-by%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
short. Right b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk-blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
cotton dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t stood out in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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cotton dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ws.

"I'm so sorry for your loss," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, touching my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm. I flinch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. How d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ touch m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mili$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly in public? Didn't sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t if w%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rrying on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$cu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ first pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr$#$
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$%^$dy might n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d?

Conc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$gist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "I know how h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd this must b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ for you," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "Pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ know if you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of guilt
for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssuming sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s doing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n showing symp
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thy. Aft%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$nts h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d di%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& young girl, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ching out to off %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r support. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t for on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wild s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd comfort h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, sucking in my st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w. I slid n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, who h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds cross%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d piously ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& Bibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s flick up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fly kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt down by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ coffin. I follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, noticing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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$%^$d from b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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orn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
ckl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

A f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w minut%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ R%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd P$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$ up to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pulpit. "W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$br$#$%^&*)
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lif%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cut f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r too short. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$vil $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mong us, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ will mourn this d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, but w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth

from this d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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inton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

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I cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rtly gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt, Emily, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$xt to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. K$#$
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$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fold%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in pr$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
slightly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if to look
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to look $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ our %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s could m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I would not dishonor Ros$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn by thinking of K$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
unfinish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
church. I'm sorry, I thought, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ss#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ upw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd hoping th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd it.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 11

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mist ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round my f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ willow tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sun w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s quickly s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting, but I could still m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dowy figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ roots.

I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty dr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss shimm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring
in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k light. Bil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my
thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. How could sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? Sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s buri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r body six f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rground $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry.

As I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling my
cour$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sping th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
knif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$t, I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rd#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk curls stuck to h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mmy for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. And h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't torn out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck displ$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
only two n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hol
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ siz
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of shodding n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ils. As if guid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d by $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n uns%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ll to my kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r body.

"I'm sorry," I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$low.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd froz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in horror. B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's body $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll.

It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s.

A sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll smil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$bud
lips, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ simply dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming.

I fought th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ to scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m. I would not l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ di%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$! But $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wounds, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t str$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight up. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r vis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ morph%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk curls f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
blond, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s glow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

"It's your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ult!" Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words cut through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ still night, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hollow $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rworldly. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ith%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ nor Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn--but to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon.

I scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, gripping my p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nknif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd slicing it into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon lung%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d forw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd clutch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. It low%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d its sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to my skin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. . . .

I wok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cold sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, sitting upright. A crow c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$; in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I could
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n pl
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying. Sunb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long my whit%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dspr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dinn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tr$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sitting on my d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$sk. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ylight. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s in my own b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d.

A dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m. I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
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$ church, my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^xh#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$droom. It h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d just b
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$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m, $#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$motion $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt to stop
pounding. I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long
gulp of w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ pitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in slowly still%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inv

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sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t thoughts to trust. I stood up, trying to
sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ nightm
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$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps so $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& child in mourning for my moth
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, but som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rvous. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll out for K$#$
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I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, finding
mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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hold%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, I could $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon.

I shook th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t thought
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out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& volum%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my mood p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly.

I forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to turn th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st of my lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rrying with m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ros$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& knock on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. "F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's not h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I c
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d, hoping who%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s would go $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

"Sir St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d's
voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "It's $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& visitor. "

"No, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," I r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. It w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s prob$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy com%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ by four or fiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king to D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. So f$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r I'd m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
visits. I couldn't st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thought of t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lling him--t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ --wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck.

"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ visitor is quit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ insist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt," Alfr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"So $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you," I mutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I strod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it.

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ sitting room," Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, turning on his h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l.

"W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it!" I s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. Could it b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . . K$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt quick%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ its%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf.

"Sir?" Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, mid-st
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p.

"I'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

Fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, I spl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sin in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to smooth my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck from my for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. My %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s still look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tiny v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s nothing mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I could do to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l, mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf.

I strod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ purpos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fully into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rlor. For $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt, my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ll with dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppointm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.
Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, sitting on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t wingb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, Emily. Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, Emily. Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t of flow
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
nos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
didn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id form$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy trying to com%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y to polit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xcus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf.

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"Mr. S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " Emily stood up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf- curts%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bonn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk skin w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s smooth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd unlin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "My mistr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I join you in your sorrows. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you this," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, proff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntmind %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly put $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sprig of lil$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c to my nos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd inh$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"I'd us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in your h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ling, r$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Cord%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s concoctions," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id.

"How did you know $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t?" I wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"S%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk. But I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding you m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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you mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n good. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ pluck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w
blossoms from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t,
twining th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bouqu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. "D
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^s, m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt will h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp you h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. "

"And p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s for thoughts?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& quot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from
Sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s
H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ml%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. As soon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id it, I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& foolish st$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. How would $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt girl possibly know wh$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king of?

But Emily simply smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "No p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lthough my
mistr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss did m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ntion your lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of Sh$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " Sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd brok%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sprig of lil$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c, which sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n push%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly into my buttonhol%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd inh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. It sm
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs,
but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$: th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ intoxic$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$xp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I inh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
confusion $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ss of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys slowly f$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"I know %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rything's v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ right
now," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, br
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "But
my mistr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss only wish%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st for you. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
couch, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if inviting m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to sit down. Ob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly, I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf with
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& typ%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so d%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lib%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inting com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
to lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ you," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$cond th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ft h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips, I r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t could n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. As I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ylight of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rlor, with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ing lost in my own thoughts, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything click%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d into focus. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& widow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my duty now w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to mourn Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, not to mourn my schoolboy f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sy of lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. B%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful orph$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n with no fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$nds or r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tions. It would n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r work--could n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r work.

"I did s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. At Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's . . . $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fun
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id stiffly.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rdly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& soci$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll," Emily point%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d out. "Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you. Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ priv

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n you'r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d quickly.

I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only
prop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thing to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
words w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd to form. "I
will s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
but in my curr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt condition, I'm $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id I'm prob$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly not in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st mood to go w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking. Pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd your mistr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lthough sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
will not w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt for comp
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny. I know my broth
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r will go wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy on my tongu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

is quit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fond o

f D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. " Emily g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skirts $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd stood up. I stood up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though I tow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, th#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rful th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n odd y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r unpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling. "But you c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n't $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rgu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

With th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ grounds, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isy in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir sc$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring
its p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^t#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wind.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 12

I'm not sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sh $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir or th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs Emily h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d brought m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$, but I sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt soundly th$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t night. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt morning I wok%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up to bright sunlight in my ch$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, for th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sinc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, didn't both%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to drink th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
concoction Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft on my
nightst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll of cinn
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^
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flo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
kitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ snort of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
hitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$m outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. For $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond, I f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& thrill of possibility $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$nt bud of h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r boom
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door, r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pping thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
with his w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking stick
or riding crop. Just lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nspir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sil%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, hoping h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$'d simply go $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. But inst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ swung
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring his riding br%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck riding crop, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ on his f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sprig of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& viol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t flow
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in his l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l. It w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ith%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$tty nor fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gr$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt; in f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct, it look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rbs Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w down
by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts' qu$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
going riding," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnounc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ swung op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs. I sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd you, my
boy, n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
sun. "

"But I should r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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studi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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limply to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ volum%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on my d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$sk.

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ book
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs. " H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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suspiciously $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt for $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

As if on cu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon strod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir of must$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd-color%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd his gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y Conf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon roll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "Don't t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th$#$%^&*)
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$mon nons%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)
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"It's not nons%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$!" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, I'll s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd your broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, turning on his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd striding out. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
him, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I put on my full riding costum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&istco$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd brown br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s--
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sigh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, not sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I h

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$nough str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth to rid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ or to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ndur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thon bick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ring s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ door, I found D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irc$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iting.

"F%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn tog%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spot und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ willow tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd found Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^
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$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss willow tr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd found
Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd squirr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s gn$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d trunk. Sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ drooping br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping willow look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d lush $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd full of
promis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&miss.

I br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sigh of r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f wh%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, inh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ling th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mili$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ll- oil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wdust. "Hi, girl," I whisp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into M%^&
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Page 15

"Actu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& shin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Which is too b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r own hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d fondly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his chin to two co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l- bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Ind%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mping th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss just how ignor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd lon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

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W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cross%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bridg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. I blink%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sunlight h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n too bright. I much pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cool, with w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$scov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st floor, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&instorm r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so thick, you could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only slight p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sky, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd occ$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sion$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly I'd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
And I do lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I will not w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch it b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stroy%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
by d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, flinging his h$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$mons," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if to prov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ his point.

"D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it's t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t will m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
you los%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything? Y s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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ou for us, but you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^
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how w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'ll liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t lif%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Y m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ go to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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ou g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in frustr$#
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I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt him to
know I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't lov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r didn't
look $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
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"All I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s for my boys to h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. I know
wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for your schoolboy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m not t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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now. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to
look into his d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "Pl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ old country, too. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ns. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
wouldn't drink lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hum$#$%^&*)(*&^
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"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y don't drink win%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th$#$%^&*)
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$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssing, wouldn't it?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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wouldn't it?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would
drink too much win%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ or whisk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y, lock hims%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf
in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n mumbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout ghosts or d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$mons.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon!" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, his voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's. "I will ignor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your impud%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But I will not h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you ignor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. List%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tur

n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to your young Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's coyot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly spitting out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word. "It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sun v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpiro. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ old country, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd now th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#

$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, scr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wing up his florid f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "And th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ doing h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding on us.
And w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to stop it. "

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t do you m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rvously, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^xh#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$ss gon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. All I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$, inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood on
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$cis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ circl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ puls
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of blood b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$ rush b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$low my fing%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . . right?

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$%^$ list%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning to th%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir t$#$
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$%^$s. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, this is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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told to sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything
you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rch on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stump.
"I will not sit $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ told ghost stori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s. " With th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on
his gold- button%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d boot $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd swung his foot up ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring him to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thing.

"M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk my words," F$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, t$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p clos
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
"V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y look lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ us
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mong us, but th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not who w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y drink blood. It is th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ir %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lixir of lif%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y do not h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ souls, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r immort$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. "

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word immort$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suck in my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th. Th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n rustling. I shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," I r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d slowly. I'd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ schoolchildr %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to g

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Wick
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry Bridg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$, trying to sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ our fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nds.
On%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ boy h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d told us of s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling
down in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods, f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ boy told
us h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
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%^$^$%^$d to him with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, blood dripping from long, sh$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th. A v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id with conviction, gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
circl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d
impr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny of us. But b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd scr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wny $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t shooting, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$'d l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ugh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
him m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rcil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ssly. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd his f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
Richmond th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$xt y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, I'd t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$r," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, kicking J$#$%^&*)
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$'s fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nks $#$%^&*)
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r simply shook his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)

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"Do you b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, son?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. All I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how, in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^k, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I fit in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nymor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Good. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd onto th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bridg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ must b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ful. It s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$
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%^$^$%^$s. It's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll
blood. "

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word blood %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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shortcut through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fi%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
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$long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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church%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d grown up
with. All th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words F$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s n%^&
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hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd now, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s bright $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
imposing in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ now, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s bright $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
imposing in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
light. "Blood is wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on. It giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m pow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r. "

"But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n . . . ," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inform
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion whirl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. "If th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ immort$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l, th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n how $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to . . . "

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"Kill th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m?" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d, finishing my thought. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins on his hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thods. I'v %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rning. I'v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st in Richmond who c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n try to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xorcis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$n p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ in town know . . . som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ things," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ finish%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d. "Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ discuss %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$limin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$s. " "If th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n do . . . ," I off%^&

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, it s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turning on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd thr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ soft r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sound w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s so slight it
might b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ wind, which h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d
shown no sign of stopping sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
woods.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo?" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sit#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
insist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly this tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. On th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
cotton curt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ins bl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w viol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly
in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind.

"Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d?" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of my n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding up. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$finit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. "I won't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding dinn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. "I won't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding dinn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d loudly.

I gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r from my d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sk
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld it b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind my
b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiously
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. But just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ doorknob, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
door b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to swing inw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

"This isn't funny!" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf hyst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ric
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l, wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& figur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Good, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ humor h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of my strong points," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r smil
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r str
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight, whit%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th.

"I'm sorry. " I blush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&stily dropp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r onto th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sk. "I'm just . . . "

"Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ still r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s brown %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s lock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
with my own. "I'm sorry to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you. "
Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t down on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
of my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, pulling h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s up to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. "Y our broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r's worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout you. "

"Oh . . . ," I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mm%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I
couldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Pi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into
my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$droom $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sitting on my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if it w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly norm$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. No wom$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt my moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Cord%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in my sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. I w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by my
muddy boots in on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of chin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Sh$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ volum
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ still op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$sk.

"Do you w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to know $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I stood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door, clutching th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss doorknob. "M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sit$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I'll t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll you. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ckon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Townsp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d if $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& coupl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry Bridg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ without $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ron%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s without $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ron%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--or stockings, for th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r --p%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on my
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sking m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
join h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I could r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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I ging%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rly s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
Imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d onto
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
Pushing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cupp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd.

"My s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t is th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout you, too," sh%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s unn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly cold $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k. My l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$g muscl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s twitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I should d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, right $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d I inch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly?" I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
looking d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$p into my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$s. "Y n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d to forg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t Ros$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. "

ou

I shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd gl$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk-brown %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
window, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st-moving summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r storm sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$p in.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took my
chin in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$-cold h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd turn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.
"Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn is d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ full of sorrow $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kindn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.
"But you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't. Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn wouldn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d you to shut yours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& crimin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. No on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

would w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$troth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, don't you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d slowly. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d told m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thing, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ infinit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n coming from K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s mouth.

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H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Y ou'll find h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp you. But you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& surg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ conv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rging $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I flinch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of it, dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppointm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling in my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dropp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck into h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p.

"Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$rs I pick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for you?" K$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sudd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, looking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room. "Y ou'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shov%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m into th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r without $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny light!"

"I'm sorry," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ imp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $riously swung h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt to t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t from und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$sk. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$w th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms cross%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. My br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th c$#$%^&*)

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^t#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not. " Sh
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
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$d sol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mn. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"

And sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon, unsur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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$d, biting h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lip in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ impr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion of
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$%^$w this w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wrong.
Sinful. But how could it b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sinful if
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry fib
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^
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$lf, in my convictions, in my d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"Do you r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'd simply put out of my mind.

Now my mind w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ins clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r storm p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il on th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ windows, how sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$'d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $xplor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xquisit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ body. At on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ point, I w$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssing h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ orn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$o n%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ckl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I b %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to uncl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp it wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n K $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d roughly push%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

"Don't!" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds flying to th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
nothing h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n disturb%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n,
onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm into pl$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hollow of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$'d r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d kissing m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I blush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ did $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
touch.

I swung my l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs out of b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd spl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r on my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mirror $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk circl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gon
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd it no long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ffort to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk from on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ room to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. I ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into my w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&istco$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk-blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
humming.

"Sir?" Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s holding $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& silv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-
dom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r--my br
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st. My lip curl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d in disgust. How could I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in in b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& whol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
world to discov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r with K$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?

"I'm quit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^ll, th#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you, Alfr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs two $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ storm from l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st night h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s quickly $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. In th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sunroom, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly-morning light w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkling through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ floor-to- c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$iling windows, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^cor#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d with fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$shly cut d$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, drinking $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mug of coff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ flipping through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ morning p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r from Richmond.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, holding up his coff%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mug $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ to$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sting m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "My, you look w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ll. Did our $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnoon rid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ do you som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ good, $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll?"

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t opposit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
him, gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dlin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Union h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Fort
Morg$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. I wond%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctly th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s.

"I don't know why w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r. It's not lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$xc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ stori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s up in his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d," D$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id disgust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$dly.

"If you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so much, why don't you just l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnoy%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's const$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt grumbling. M$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ it would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r if h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, so th$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
wouldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so frustr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. An

odious voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of my
mind sil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, And
so I don't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to think $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, swinging on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ porch swing tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon r$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brow. "W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$miss if I didn't s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y things w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sting h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " His lips curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& priv$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ sort of smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to gr$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&b his should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ him.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
of my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$motions surpris%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, so much
so th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to sit down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#

$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd shov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
into my mouth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&
muffin from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rflowing b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'd n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lous of my broth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly I
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s dying to know: H
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r snuck up to his b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$droom? Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ couldn't h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
L$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st night, sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rvous $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting
c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught, h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ promis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& word to $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nybody $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d don
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tsy, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
cook, c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n with pl
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$s of grits, b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&con, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ggs. My
stom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch rumbl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rving. I quickly tuck%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltin%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ggs combin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t bitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss of my coff%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d br%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I sigh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in
cont%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$nt, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.

"I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sh $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd good food," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id.

And K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I thought.

"Now l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's go outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ troubl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly. "F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's in his study, doing his d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon studi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Do you know h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt in on it?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon shook his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d in disgust.

I sigh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Whil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I didn't n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rily b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
discussion $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout d%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons, I did r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough to not m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fun of his
thoughts. It m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l v$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ly disloy$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l to h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's dismiss$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l of him.

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"I'm sorry, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon shook his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd scr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his ch $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor. "I know you don't lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I fight. " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, pulling out my ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir from und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&using m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. I scr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd good-n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly shov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with gl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Now, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's go!" H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n out th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$tting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door sl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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kitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
tossing two w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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$^$%^$.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r! C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$ to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pigskin in my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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it tightly to my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g
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%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind
whipping my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y boys!" $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& voic%^&%^
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stopping m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my

ou tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks. K$#$%^&*)
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rgy? "

I sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$pishly turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ porch.

"Pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying c$#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, br
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iding h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r curls down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. I h$#$
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thought w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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%^$som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with our childish g$#$%^&*)
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com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch swing.

"Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy to pl$#$%^&*)
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%^$^$%^$r.

"Absolut%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly not. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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porch.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r but
didn't m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
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down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t!"

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$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ribs. Not lik%^&%^
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"I know," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Page 19

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grounds?"

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$^$%^$.

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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "And I, for

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,

think mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girls should $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dmit th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ir wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Aft
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll know th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$x h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. R
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
Cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cut off Am%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," I chuckl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^d, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy to pl
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of storyt
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for
K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. "Cl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntin%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thought Am%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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forw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd with M$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$w H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Cl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nci%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him,
sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d t
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ it in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r own h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Am%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ put h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mouth in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stur%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d conc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn. "I
do hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ poor Am%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ng
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d to som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ soldi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Don't worry $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," D
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "In f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct, you shouldn't worry $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything. Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r too pr%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tty. "

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout on%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thing. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "Who sh$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$scort m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll?" Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
swung h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sol b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd forth on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ground, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if thinking
through $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cision. My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt quick%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t both of us. "I know! L%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Winn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t to t$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sol on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n off to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ising $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brow $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy?" I smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if this w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&su$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n's footr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon to know how f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd how v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry much I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Go!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Imm%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly I b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n running. My h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs fl$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I prop
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in school, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$st boy in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss, lightning quick wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ school b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls of l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I gl
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s doubl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
up ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r hims%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$lf, sl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pping his kn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I gulp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir, trying not to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m wind%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d. "Sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to comp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, running b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd slugging D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I'd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt it to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yful punch, but it l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy thud.

"Oh, now w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ on, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, his voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
light $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd full of l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd wr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sily to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ground. I struggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to my f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him,
throwing him onto his b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pinning down his wrists.

"Think you c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n still

lick your littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ broth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?" I t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$njoying my mom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry victory.

"No on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pout%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r frown
quickly turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w us on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground, br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thing h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vily. "Good thing I'm h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ you both. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips
first to D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's ch%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's wrists
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd stood up, wiping
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dirt off my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s.

"S%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm to D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. "All you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& kiss to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r--$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lthough you boys
shouldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ such brut%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s with %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fighting for you," D$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zily, not both%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ring to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up.
Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ sound of hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s' hoov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrupt%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us. Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
dismount%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his hors%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of us. It must h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sight: D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon lying on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ ground, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sting his h%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d on his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ simply r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$clining, m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntic$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly brushing gr$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ins off my trous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tw
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n us,
looking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mus%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"I'm sorry to int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrupt," Alfr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "But M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r Gius
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds to sp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k to M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. It's urg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. "

"Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it is. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rything is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt for
F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t do you b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r

ridiculous th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ory h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds to discuss?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lift%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sol from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ground. "I should g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t going, too. I'm
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll dish%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I'm du%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
to visit with P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&poth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry. "

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sturing for D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon to jump onto th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of his
hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. As Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon rod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I slowly w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
bring up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Found%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs B$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in but found mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lf $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id to do so.

"Y don't n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d to k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$p p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

ou P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rh#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps you should k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p your broth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "It s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r is $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n who's b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st
t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on by two," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ obs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd brush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my own $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
wrist. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tipto%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips to gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my ch
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k.
"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
tonight, sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$t St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. My ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs will b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. "
And with th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off
into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& spirit%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d run.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& colt, g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lloping fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt my
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no qu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stion: Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I did. And

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knowing th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d in my lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 15

As soon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s twilight f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, I sn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^$^$%^$d down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs, op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck door, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tipto%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d out onto th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$$#$
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%^$^$%^$t with d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w. I w$#$%^&*)
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xtr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utious, sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
torch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s surrounding th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ displ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nturing out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk. But th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s only $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s throw from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ its%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf--$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout tw%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nty p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch.

I stol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd, st$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows, f%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling my h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt pound $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my rib c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I w$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't conc%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks or cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$s of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ conc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ found by Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d or, wors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ notion of not b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t night m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l hyst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ric#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l.

Onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy fog bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sky, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n odd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l of n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t most lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s du%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sons. I shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to look $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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willow tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I r$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ bridl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
porch st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d door.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ins on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
windowp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d shut,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$light s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping
und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
windows. For $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d com%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ too l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Wh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t if K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Emily h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d?
Still, I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my knuckl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n door fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
wrist.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in!" I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt into
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lock $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-to- f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ with Emily.

"Sir," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, smiling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curts%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy gown, $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir f%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll in d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.

"Good %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ning," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, bowing g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&djust to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dim light. A r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn glow %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rough-h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wn t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ living room, c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sting sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms of th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$iling. Th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ Moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d stopp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d visiting. But now th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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rooms th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t c$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I do for you, sir?" Emily $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s unblinking.

"Um . . . I'm h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Wh$#
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discr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t,
but I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w how s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s virtu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ compromis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
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%^$xp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cting you," Emily s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& glint of mischi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$f in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n st
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. I squint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, w%^&
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upst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$d, but som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing $#$%^&*)(*&^
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$ sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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from st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry long. Now th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, though, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Emily turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r knuckl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ swung
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n.

I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiously into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ room, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floorbo$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Emily dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room
its%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s furnish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
simply: $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st-iron b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d by $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& simpl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n quilt, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmoir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in on
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sin in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gilt-pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, fr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding mirror in $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& third corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

window, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tuck
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r short whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ nightgown $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r long curls w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ loos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.

I stood th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly cough
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk, c$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t-lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"I'm h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, shifting from
on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ boot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d foot to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r.

"So I s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ grinn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you w

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you fright
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk?"

"No!" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nsiv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt from tr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to tr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rc#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utious squirr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brow $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms out tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Y n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
stop worrying.

ou Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'll h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lp you t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your mind off things," sh%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ising h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$brow.
I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m, kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$lt on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd hugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tightly. As soon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r body in my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds, I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&x%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d. Just f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mind%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l, th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t tonight w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t nothing %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d--not F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, not
Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, not th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spirits th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
townsp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
convinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d outsid

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk.

All th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round my lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd work%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
its w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y down my
should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Found%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs B$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll tog%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. As h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my should%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$lt h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fing%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rn#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ils dig through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ thin cotton of my shirt, I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& split- s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$cond im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of us, t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs from now, with pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$nty of childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n who'd fill th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$ with sounds of l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d this lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
now $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd for%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I mo$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d with d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing my lips to brush h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, first slowly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d do in
front of %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnounc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
our lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t our w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$dding, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mor%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing my lips to tr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$l from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mouth to h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, inching
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r snow-whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
bosom.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
chin $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pull%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ciproc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^n#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mouth.
W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I clos%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd forgot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
futur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

All of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$
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$ck, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I c$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d out, but K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s still kissing m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But no, not kissing, biting, sucking th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood from b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th my skin. My %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$w op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, wild $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bloodshot, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ghostly whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moonlight. I wr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s unr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nting, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m, couldn't fight,
could only s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ full moon out th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd could only f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
blood l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving my body, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$rror $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling up insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If this w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lt lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$n I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I
flung my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, giving mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lf to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rything f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 16

It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hoot of
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n owl--$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long, pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s to sn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p op%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. As my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&djust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dim light, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pulsing p$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of my n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to k%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p tim%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

owl's cri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. And sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything--K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips dr
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th sp
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkling. My h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dying $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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born $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round wildly.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, cl$#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ muslin slip, s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t just st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sin, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
upp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l. "H
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo, sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$py St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id coqu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ttishly.

Page 21

I swung my l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs out of b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p out, only to find mys%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts. "Your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, knowing I sound%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ins$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd poss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& town drunk stumbling out of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ continu
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to run th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ cotton cloth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ I'd s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st night w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s not hum$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. It h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fill%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with thirst $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$motions
I couldn't %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n think to n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But in this light K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, blinking h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pily lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& kitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, forcing mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to look into h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you?"

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slowly
pick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irbrush on h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nightst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
world. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to run it through h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r luxurious locks.

"You'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you?" sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

So sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. My
blood turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$.

I took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd wr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my body, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pull%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m on. I
quickly shov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t into my
boots $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd y$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d on my shirt, not c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout my und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rshirt, still on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor. F$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lightning, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd gripping my should%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s surprisingly strong, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rk sh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply to wr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nch mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp. Onc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck.

"Shhh. Shhh," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ murmur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r soothing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&
child.

"No!" I y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d, holding my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
up. I would not h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r try
to ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. You kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ killing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town. Y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vil,

ou $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd you n%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "

But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught sight of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $s, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, luminous, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$mingly d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pthl%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ss %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I stopp %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d short.

"You'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cho %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my mind, bouncing $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I did not know how or why it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s so, but in my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt of h%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rts, I sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nly w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. But still . . .

"Y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
though. How c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$

ou th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t?"

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^t, sc#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d St%^&
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "It's m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'm still K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
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I forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$^$%^$, but . . .

"Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thinking of Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
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$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on wh
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$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m, but I promis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ you, I did not kill h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. And I n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"But . . . but . . . , " I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^
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K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brought h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
to my lips. "Shhh. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s
with you th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t night. R
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout. And I don't know
how Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn di%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but who%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, which, I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with gold--"th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$d to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk

ou during th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night, but I $#$%^&*)
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$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, l%^&%^
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do h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
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I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^

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$ginning to ris%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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to t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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$^$%^$ with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spirit,
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vil. I sunk h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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to trust m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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ou down b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st so sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could
f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l my h
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Nothing mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$, nothing l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. I'm th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girl you w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for
hours on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sn't ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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you f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l,
how I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d both of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds, cupping th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$m in my own. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y look%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd vuln%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$. I brought h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cold, d%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^lic#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fing%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs to my mouth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ by on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so sc $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd unsur %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

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ou th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft my lips, I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$w it to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tru%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt would br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k if it w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shook h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$

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h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
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Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is not who sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything I know, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything I'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught, %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything I'v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs is wrong.

I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n still f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fing%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds. I still y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&son is scr%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming in my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs: You c$#$%^&*)
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$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$!

If I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d on%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&isi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$s, I could pluck th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flow%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r choos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for m %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r . . . I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r not . . . I . . . I lov%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

I do. No m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cons%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$qu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

Is this wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t following your h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt is? I wish th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p or $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp m %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ find my w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. But sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ls%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is my North St$#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r . . . $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t will h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough.

Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r I slipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to my own ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, I
som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to sl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p for $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$w hours. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I
wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d if %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rything w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m. But th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I shift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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pillow $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t puddl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of dri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
crimson blood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rs to my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wound th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd though it didn't hurt, it brought b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l incid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vious %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning.

I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xh $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd confus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. My limbs w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, my br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&buzz. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, but insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&*(sort of c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lm I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^xtr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ wound with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp cloth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it, th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n button%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n shirt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s high $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it would go. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mirror. I tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything diff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ glint
in my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cknowl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$wfound worldlin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. But my f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rd#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

I cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study.
F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's sch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dul%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
clockwork, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mornings surv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ying $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
visiting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$lds with Rob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt.

Onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ cool, d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk
room, I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n my fing
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-bound
spin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling comfort%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir smoothn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ss. I just hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$, in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of books on %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry subj%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ct, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t would $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of my qu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stions. I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ volum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study,
or $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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from sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lf, for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rwh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ numb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r of books in F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's study. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could I possibly find inform$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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of pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys, fiction, $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of Bibl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in

English, som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in It$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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L$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tin. I tr$#$%^&*)
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my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$%^&*)
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l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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$^$%^$r spin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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hoping th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how I'd find som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$thing.

Fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, my fing%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rtips l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& thin, t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d volum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with
D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$monios writt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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spin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$monio . . . d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon . . . This w$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s looking for. I op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ book, but it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s
writt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n di$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I couldn't m$#$%^&*)
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h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nsiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
tutoring in L$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tin $#$
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Still, I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ book
with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ club ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in. Trying to d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ciph%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ book w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding out loud $#$%^&*)
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$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I
didn't miss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntion of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
word v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpiro. Fin$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, I found it, but th%^&
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
surrounding it w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ nothing but gibb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rish to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I sigh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in frustr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ door to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ study cr%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n.

"Who's th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$?" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d loudly.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" My f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's ruddy
f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d surpris%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s looking for you. "

"Oh?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd flying to my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ck, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bric. But $#$
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%^$^$%^$lt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smooth lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n of my shirt. My s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
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$^$%^$ str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
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$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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book off my l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p. "Y $#
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ou think $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curving onto his f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ do?" My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ful," I s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n doing this morning w$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s indulging in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& schol$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly int%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st in v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

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I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t n%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ front s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t of th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, whil%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, hidd%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n from sight l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $st sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suspicion. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s str$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out in th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ morning, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ci$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly without $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& footm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to driv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ us, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I c$#$%^&*)

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down. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ clip-clopping into town, just p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ J%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mi$#$%^&*)
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$^$%^$d out by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf bottl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t his f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t.

Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how, I didn't think J%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mi$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h Bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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or %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n s

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing wh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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through my thoughts.

I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to my
right, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^$^$%^$r w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ sitting on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ iron b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nch outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. I w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, but, s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing F$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, thought b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt
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I clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my mouth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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until w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd of
town, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to his
f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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rick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ty st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d suit.

B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could ring th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ll, Jon#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. "Good to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you, Gius%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rbs," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ring his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us
through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$xt to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for us to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d insid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took turns
ducking down to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t long,
with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& flimsy l$#$
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$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd. Wordl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssly
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ climb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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windowl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s burn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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$^$%^$d t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&djust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dim light, I could m$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out
Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& F%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls sitting ging%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rly on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& rock%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff
Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n old wood%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nch.

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n," Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lcoming us $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ just stopping in for t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&. "And I'm $#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ your $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cqu$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&int$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, Mrs. . .
. " Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d suspiciously $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&.

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"Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&," Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& murmur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, gl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ncing from on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if this w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st pl$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

My f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cough%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
uncomfort$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly. "Sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n during his sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r his . . . "

"Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r his fi$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc?%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t ripp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
out?" M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood
s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id gruffly.

"M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor!" Honori$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pping h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mouth.

As Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n duck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck out into th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, I s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ttl%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight-b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ch$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ group $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s possibl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt out of pl $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$, though prob$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s out of pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Cord%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s now $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wkw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rdly sitting on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n ch $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir n%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s rock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Now, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n!" Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, coming b$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room, his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n with
tools $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd p$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd obj%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cts I couldn't %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gin
to id%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntify. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t on $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& moth-%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd look%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round. "L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gin. "

"Fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id simply.

A shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r r$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n up my spin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. Fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, too?
H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d K$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only
on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
sc#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?

"Fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"It's b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in It$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ly, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kills th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s do%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding or $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt. And, of cours%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rbs th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct us.
" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&.

"V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in," Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& confirm%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in," Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily. "How pr%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tty. "

Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& snort%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "It $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in't nothing but $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$rb. But if you w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*& %^#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r it, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $n you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$vil. Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y it c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso work $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bit to nurs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lth. But it's poison to th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vils you c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll v$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$s. "

"I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dily, holding out h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"I don't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,"
Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"Y don't?" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
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$^$%^$r sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply.

ou "It's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll gon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$
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$^$%^$n. I us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it for Mr. St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s; th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt to pick it this morning, it w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n who took it," Cord%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
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$^$%^$, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ told my
f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r by now.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ do I g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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$^$%^$d.

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r your nos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n insult
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"It grows %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^$. Exc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt our g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Miss Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& to h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"Now, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it just $#$
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M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, pounding his b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fy fist on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Y lost
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ snort%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "It k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vil $#$
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"Y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in town must w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r it. S%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to it, M$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood. Th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who do%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s not
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r-of-f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it took %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry ounc%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf-
control for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not to st$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up, rush down th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, find K
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

But if I did th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, $#$
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M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood shift %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d un%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sily, c$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&using th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir to cr%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k. I jump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Now, if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$rb works, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thing. But w%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ middl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'v%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lot of Conf%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gov%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt offici $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls p$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssing through Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y to Richmond, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd if word g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts out th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iding th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fighting storybook cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s with flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs . . . " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shook his h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnot issu%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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how do w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ know you'r%^&%^
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Lockwood is right. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to think c$#
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly. "

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"Y son h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& good h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d on his should %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs,"

our M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id grudgingly.

"A b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n yours," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mumbl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll . . . w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n discuss v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Honori $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, you'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&& r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy supply, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n strongly %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ncour$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$

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unfolding l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts of p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r onto th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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bifoc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls on his nos%^&
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"It is! But inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of finding north, it finds v$#$%^&*)
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%^$s," Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. "I'm working on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ prototyp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It just n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bit mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-tuning. It's $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct
blood. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood of oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d up, surpris%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rs. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shook h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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"No," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds. "It works?"

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll . . . "--Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n shrugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d--"it will work. "

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I propos%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ning b$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on his ch$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. "W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm ours%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s with v%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ work d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd night to g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss to work. And w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd by month's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$nd our town will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cross %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms in s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tisf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ction. On%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ by on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ group, including Cord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^li#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, nodd%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ds.

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buzzing in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cluck%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out symp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tic nois %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

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"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbing my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$r just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I op%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t would l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& world I und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rstood.

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"R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& word of this to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Ev %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. Not until h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$ com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to his s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Exc%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt I think his s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t go of my
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$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntion of K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$zz$#$
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Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 18

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for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^$^$%^$y pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd drink $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ twilight roll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ or Emily, I wish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& night with K$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my d%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ right dir
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction. I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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"R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)
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uniform, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by my b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$droom $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t twilight.

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y no.

"Good. " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ grinn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
wistfully out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window tow$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
going out to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d by F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's study.

"W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it!" F$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ study into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ living room, s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l long br$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with tiny, lil$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
in his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms. V%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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tucking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sprig into
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts.

"Y shouldn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id

ou t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pluck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sprig out of his pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd shov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it into his br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t.

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"I'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n you l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&titud%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, son, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& roof. Now $#$
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showing m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rcy on D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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"B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y shouldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,

ou shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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giving us $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b%^&%^
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giving us $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cryst$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moon.

"Why not? H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r J$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in sil%^&
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rious, hidd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n p$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rty.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo, sir?" Two Conf%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up to us,
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir rifl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s point%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd us. M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$zz
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd whinni%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rvously.

"Soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, sir! H
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from G
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l Groom's c$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp down in Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&. "

Imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly, th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&x%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir rifl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tipp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ts $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t us.

"Sorry 'bout th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, soldi
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rin' up for b$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ losing our m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fli
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n hit
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld," th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pping
up to p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t J$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd not b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
typhus," th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r,

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^s, sm#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, must$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&chio%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, obviously pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this
inform$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion with us.

"Killings?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ly.

"How'd you know?" th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first gu$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
stroking his rifl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground, unsur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t to do. I f%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting us into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous situ$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion, but I didn't know wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I could do to fix it.

"My broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ coming from Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rking his thumb b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if to prov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt town ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, p#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of our own troubl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying it's som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ typ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. "

"Not unl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss it's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t only go%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$st of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ body untouch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d," th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ must$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&chio%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id knowl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly, his tiny %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s flicking b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd forth b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
us.

"Hmm," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, sounding sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly unint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. But th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ subj%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct. "Any good g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of pok
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r going on tonight?"

"Right th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t cl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
o$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k tr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. " Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
point%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys off into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& good %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n. I th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you for
your h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id with %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$x
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d polit%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. W%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ction th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r point%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, until D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bruptly
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll circl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, huddl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo! Soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon S$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from G

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l Groom's boys," D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id confid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slid off his hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd gl$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s lit up by
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpfir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
"This is my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lt in?"

On%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ging%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r-h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n old%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^r, gr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd-f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rly typ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whos%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sling. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
shrugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for us to sit on on%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ logs s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fir
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Don't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ why not. "

Adr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^n#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through my v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ins $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ttl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd took our h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds. Min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s good: two $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& king. I imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w in som
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rumpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d not%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from my pock%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^t, m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t with
mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. If I won mon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything
would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. And if I
didn't, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n . . . w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ll, I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to think $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout it.

"All in," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id confid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly.

Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I w$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't surpris%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ victor. I smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
pil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of mon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$fully put it in my pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I grinn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f, fin#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my
lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. Sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. S$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vvy St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Or m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d simply l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ugh, showing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to t
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r into my $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd twirl h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round $#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
room. . . . W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, during which I
lost th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d won, but I
didn't c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd now my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mind f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lt r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly light.

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you
thinking?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^d, t#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk from his pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$t. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ld it tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long swig.

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Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y burn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d going down my thro$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, but I still cr$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It didn't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rs w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ up for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fiv
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying with h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d drift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d off to ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w tob$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cco, drink mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y, or t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rfully t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rts b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck hom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r, you c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," D
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ncour$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk, swigg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from it, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r drink $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
Should I t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll him? Any h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sit#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d dis$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
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%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my
broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ll, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s thinking
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout how diff%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r girl
I'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t .
. . ," I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^v#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&siv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ly. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding into d$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rous t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rritory, but p$#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt of m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s dying to know
wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$w K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I took $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r sip of whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cough%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d.

"How's sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ diff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ curving on his lips.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, I m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s not," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, sob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring
up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I fr$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cktr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. "I just m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is--" notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is--"

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" D

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon int%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrupt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

My br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught in my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I blink%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rvously. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ drinking, l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ughing, counting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ir winnings.

But D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s simply sitting th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on his lips. I couldn't und%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rst#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd how h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s smiling. And th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^w, d#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r thought $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my
mind. Ho

w did D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon know th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s who sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s? H$#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
told him? And h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d it b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ misty pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn, in b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d? I shudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"So sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Wh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t of it? Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s still K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
to look $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ncy in his
d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk-brown %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "And you
won't s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything to F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it is," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ scuff
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his boot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ground.

"How did you find out?" I couldn't stop mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$lf from $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sking.

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& shot w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r down!" $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& uniform%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
boy who look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout fourt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d from t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt to t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. "Soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
down! Att$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck! Out into
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods!"

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's f$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d. "I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp. Y littl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

ou, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, go hom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling torn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly
fright%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon nodd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly. "If F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sks, I dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk too much $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&loon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping it off som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "
Anoth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r shot w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon took off into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ woods, bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding into th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& of soldi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.

"Go!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ opposit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dir
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ now-$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&b$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dug my h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls into M%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^zz#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, whisp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ty %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd imploring h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r to go f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^zz#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rod

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$; onc%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
Wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry Bridg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctly how to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d hom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd whinni%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld on
with my thighs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dowy figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
with gold%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n-brown h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm-in-$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r girl.

I stiff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d. No wom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n would b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk un$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ccomp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ni%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st of circumst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, but d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$finit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly
not in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Not with th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction
on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r I s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, point%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$scorting littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& from th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&poth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry. All I could s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk vin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of
Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s curls, bouncing
ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I y%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& str%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth I did not know I poss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Now, inst
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting to hold h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms to r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^str#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, to m
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r stop c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rrying out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wful thing sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout to do. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lt bil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ris%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ in my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
finding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& j$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mming it into h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't turn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
tight%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. I kick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$zz$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nks, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wind whipping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my f$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly tri%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch up with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$m.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 19

I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llop%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
woods, kicking M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^zz#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
jump ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r logs, to d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh through und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rbrush, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything
to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I didn't
los%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sight of K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&. How could I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trust%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? How could I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thought I
lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r? I should h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I h$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If I didn't c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch up to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
m, Ann#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s blood
would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds, too. Just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn's w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n uproot
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^zz#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up, s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ tumbling b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckw$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd onto th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st floor. I f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&b $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s knock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
out of m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I fought for br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, knowing it
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s only $#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of tim
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would kill Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
finish m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off.

I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$-cold h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds lifting m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sitting position.

"No . . . ," I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct of br%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thing hurt. My br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ ripp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh on my kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Blood flow
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly from my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$mpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, using th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss to st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding. I notic %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r licking h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$n m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m firmly tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ hurt," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id softly, continuing to $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pply pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ssur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to my wound. I push%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, but K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, holding m%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Don't worry. R%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Y h$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt,"

ou K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, holding my g$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. Wordl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssly, I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. If d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it would com%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ quickly. Sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s,
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iting for th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gonizing %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
cst#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sy of h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ck.

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But nothing c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cold skin n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r my mouth.

"Drink," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& thin g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skin. Blood w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s trickling from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cut $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though through $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& brook $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&instorm. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$puls%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to turn my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, but K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld on to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. "Trust m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It will h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp. "

Slowly, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rfully, I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
lips to touch th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ liquid. Imm%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly I f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmth run down my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. I continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d to drink until K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, holding h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lm ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wound. "Now, how do you f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l?" Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd surv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

How did I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$l? I touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g, my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rything f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt smooth. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Y did th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id incr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dulously.

ou

"I did. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stood up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd brush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I notic %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wound, too, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s now compl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Now t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ why I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l you. Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you doing in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st? Y know

ou it's not s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, conc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lying h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r chiding ton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y . . . . Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&," I murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling sluggish

ou $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$py, $#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ might f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long, win%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-
infus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d dinn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r. I blink%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my surroundings. M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^zz#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nott%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s hitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sitting on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch, hugging h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching us. Inst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rror,
Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s f$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s full of confusion $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, to K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& is on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
my fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nds," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc
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$^$%^xpl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d bri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fly. "W
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lucky during th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ continuing. "My husb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^$ of consumption hit town. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d--my husb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, my two sons, my b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&by d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Within $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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I didn't know wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t to s
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"And th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I couldn't los%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, too. My h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt would br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t," P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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own world. "I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w my soul $#$%^&*)
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k. And th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so young, so innoc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could
look $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
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%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt," P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rriv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in
town myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riously, without r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, but sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$di

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ty. "

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ring who, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^n, w#$%^&*)
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r story.

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$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r got
sick, not during th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cold s%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sons, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ consumption b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n in town.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. "Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d," P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl continu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with gri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling so h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I w$#$
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$d by m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dicin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$, un$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
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h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp my d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
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$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
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don%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. And $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't do it, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n who . . . ?

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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your n
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"But som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of our trib%^&%^
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$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "But it's not just w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ or th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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troubl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, but no
on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s mouth w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$t of cold w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$mind%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only
p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson in K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s univ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Who $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s?" I
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d gruffly.

"It's our community, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of it," P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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$ stood up, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t crunching on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground until sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cts: W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d blood
to liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$ don't n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d it from hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r custom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs how $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rb work%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls. But, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ns, som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of us don't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf-control, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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us $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^
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$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It's r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt from $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& rogu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, is it?"

I sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d
just pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d pok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r with.
W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny of th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, too?

"And r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only know som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
could b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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"And now, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tonight. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
discuss wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t to do $#$
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Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& F%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls brought $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cing tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d off $#$
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%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sky, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Quickly, I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring orn$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$os lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$.

"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
ckl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
clutching my own thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I, too, h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rious
blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"L$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pis l$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zuli. It $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llows us to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ylight. Thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ of our kind c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnot,
usu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly. But th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ms prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct us.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us to liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
norm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^rh#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps, %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d us to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y mor
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in touch with our hum$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rwis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," P%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id thoughtfully. "Y don't know

ou wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it's lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. " P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl's m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-of-f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dissolv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into sobs. "It's good to know th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nds w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n trust. "

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I took out my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rchi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f from my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it to h %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, unsur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I could do. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd shook h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "I'm sorry. I'm so sorry th$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to know $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout this, St%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s things, but I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r thought . . . it's too soon to h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to mov %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. "

"I'll prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct you," I h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf s

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying, in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t didn't quit %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sound lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"But . . . but . . . how?" P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r off in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll four of us jump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round. "How?" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s still.

"My f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ks. " I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tiny pinprick of b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^tr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id it.

"Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in disb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f. "But how did h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ know?"

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "It's F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& F%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m to know $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from books. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n old volum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in his study, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ id%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& to l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$'ll do it. Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ is not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ his
opinions %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sily sw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d," P%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"No, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m. " I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d how funny it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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uncommon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "And I know th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will do

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rything in our pow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nsur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But you simply must do wh$#$%^&*)(*&^
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c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ too f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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through too much to simply b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kill%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by our n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ighbors. "

"Y won't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ conviction

ou th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d in my lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. "I'm not sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'll do y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t, but I will prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct you. I
promis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ promis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, but w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s looking only $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ nodd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tiny sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk igniting in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"Good," P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ching out h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$py-%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Ann$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$r f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$t. "Now, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$st too long. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. And, St %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trust you," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tini%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st hint of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rwis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
rich voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbing K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m. B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y work%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$y could g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^
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middl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ night; th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y could %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ who s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$rbs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mushrooms. s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rching for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rbs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mushrooms.

But I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sc$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
for K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt so
sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s look
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d so fright%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding on m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& thought th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
qu#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mounts of prid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d.

"Oh, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ck. "I know %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

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I miss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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to sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd so much unint%^&%^
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It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b%^&%^
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$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'd t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lds. Sh%^&
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ting in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, $#$%^&*)
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whol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. In h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$droom, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds.

Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful. But th$#$
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Page 31

"Fighting ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly complic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. But if F
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
pick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^$^$%^$ pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ginning to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l six c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I pick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up my st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, but inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of looking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds, I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if I could spot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window.

Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room. "Sir, you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. "

"A gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st?" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d curiously, h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding up from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
unl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ting $#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in town
or $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"Pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ forgiv
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my intrusion. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thin $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bouqu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t of flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs of
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll diff%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt sh$#$
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$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd siz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s--ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ picking th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ci
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ color. " K$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld out his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d b$#$
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$%^$ly h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rs#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&
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if I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
introducing F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$troth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you, Miss Pi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "And our hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is your hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ don't f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rmission to com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ visit. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r you wish to sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with us. "

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you. I wouldn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n imposition," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tting h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s irr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sistibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n.

"Pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h$#$
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$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&%^
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%^$^$%^$ttling down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$. "My son $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ just
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds, but w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$m $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^
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$^$%^$. "Cribb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. M$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I join you?" Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d into my ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pick%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. Inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
frown%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rr$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds.

How could sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n worri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so c
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nch#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting?

"Why, of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, Miss Pi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If you'd lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, I'd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
honor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I'm sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
my son would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp
you. "

"Oh, I know how to pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Good," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, putting his own c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd on top of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rs. "And, you know, I do worry $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd your m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If you w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, pl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, just l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ know
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd your wish is my
comm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. I thought th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you would lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ priv$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cy, but with things $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r . . . " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d off.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shook h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dow of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& frown crossing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "I'm not fright%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d through $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lot in
Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, pl$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$up. "B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts' qu$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y would h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ if I scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d. "

As F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n of sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, K$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d my kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, slowly brushing it with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ry strok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I flush%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ intim
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ cont$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s so clos%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to
stop.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fiv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of di$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&monds on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd pil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Thirt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. I think I m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lucky str%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k, Mr. S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, moving h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ spot on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cribb$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bo$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$light%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d grin. "Y ou'r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ quit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& girl. St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly und%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rstood th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rul
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of this g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door sl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room, his rucks$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r his
should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ shrugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it off onto th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
pick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it up. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon didn't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m to notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. "Looks lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'm missing $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ fun," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, his ton%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ccus$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tory $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s his g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flick%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to m%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id simply. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly

ou gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t him. "Y oung K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is proving th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s not
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to t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll who it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 21

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morning, D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
bri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpl
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r stori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from h
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r It$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout Wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d if $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, or if it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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stori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ntu#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to sp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would $#$
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$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
how sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$r nourishm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, $#$%^&*)(*&^
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On%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt, discussing busin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ss with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^n, d#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring Octob%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, but no on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
would know it from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ high t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)
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$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$rnoon thund%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rstorms. I h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't gon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ swimming $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't w$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond
on my skin--$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ylight. I stripp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd jump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
in imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly.

"Don't spl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh!" y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$
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$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ lift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skirt up to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiously st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r muslin fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ts b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
willow tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't
stop st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^lic#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nkl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in! Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though my
t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ring.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ continu
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to tipto%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond
until sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
muddy strip b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "It's dirty. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ wrinkl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r nos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, shi%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$lding h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sun.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's why you h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ to g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t in. To w$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh off $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mud," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, using my fing %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs to flick w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tow$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. A f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w dropl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bodic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ss, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I f%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I dunk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$d und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to cool my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d.

"You'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spl$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, my h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir dripping on my

should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. "Or, sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ not
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id of spl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" I f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bit
ridiculous s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying it, b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ such
comm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts didn't sound n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on my lips. Still, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ did m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vor of l$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ughing. I c$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$fully sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ rocks on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bottom of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n flick
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction.

"No!" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ no mov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to run $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond, gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ist, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n! Stop!" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ clung to my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. "At l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off my dr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss!"

At th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, I imm%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r go. Sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sily pull off h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$ stood in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r littl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slip. I g
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. Of cours%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r body b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but
it h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf-light. Now I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sun
on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r stom
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch curv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d inw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w,
for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ millionth tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s in lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rw#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rging right n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$xt to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "And now, r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd spl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d cool w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r might.

"If you w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't so b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful, I might fight b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, pulling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ighbors will t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk," murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my lips.

"L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk," I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to know how much I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, with mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssion th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I'd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt. I suck %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling so much
d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
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I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ should
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"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ storm c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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out h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r curls. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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"No," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id loudly, to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mys %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf.

"I'm just t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sing you!" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k b %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ning down to pick up h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. As sh %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping willow tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$, I y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd put on my shirt.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rg%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$r, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r cotton dr%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss clinging to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp t%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ndrils of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir sticking to h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ndrils of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir sticking to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$r b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skin h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bluish qu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lity to it.

I put my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd rubb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms vigorously, trying to w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
up, though I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w th$#$%^&*)(*&^
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"I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll you," K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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giving m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r.

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Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d knock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on my door. "Sir? Do you r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$quir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I swung th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n.

I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mirror. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck long-t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ti%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, with my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir slick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. I look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d old%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ confid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.

Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Looking sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt, sir," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you. I'm r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
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most b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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found. I wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town's girls. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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$%^$ly, impossibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to find in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ morning $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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door. Emily wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck silk dr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, but K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . .

I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to pr%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p from jumping out of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moving co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, nipping in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$
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%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, nipping in $#$%^&*)
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$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ist b%^&%^
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hips. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bodic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tight $#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ top of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
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h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on th
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r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins, I op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
door of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd hopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
out, smiling bro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dly
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, lifting h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skirts slightly $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " I g%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.
Tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Alfr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d stood with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ door op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
unf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mili$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$s, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
Lockwood m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsion on
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd of
town. I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& thrill of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nticip$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion. This w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first
tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$scort%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& girl to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
Found%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs B$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. In $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vious y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs, I'd sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt
most of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nings pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying pok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
with my fri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nds. Inv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sort of dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. L$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w H$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$tt h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d gott%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n drunk on whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ccid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly unhitch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from his p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts' co$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd two y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&go, N$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n L$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ym$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d gott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fistfight with Gr
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt V$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rbilt, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd both %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up with
brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n nos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slowly m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ our w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y up to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsion, fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ching th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ front w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk. Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t us
out. I l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tog%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n doors of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsion $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dining room.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ high-c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$iling%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d room h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll furnitur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$light l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm, myst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rious glow to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls. A b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Irish r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd coupl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ginning to d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s young. I squ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" I whirl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w Mr. $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright. I dropp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd imm%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly.

Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright's %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s positiv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&unt comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I s$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nwhil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, Mr.
C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs. His h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s snow-whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id of $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Both
wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ purpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ sprigs of v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in--$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tuft stuck out of Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright's br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st pock%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ flow
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
into Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright's
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t--but oth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly in bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, for mourning.

"Mr. $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Mrs. C$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright," I s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, my stom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nching
with guilt. In truth, I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly forgott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Ros$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ng$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d. "It's good to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you. "

"Y could h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n us soon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r if you'd com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

ou to c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll on us," Mr. C $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright s$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ could b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly hid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cont%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpt in his voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$n his g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on K $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "But I und %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rst#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd you must h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in d%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p . . . gri%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll. "

"I will com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ now th$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I know you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king visitors," I s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id l$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly, tugging $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my coll$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, which sudd%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt quit %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tight $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ck.

"No n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d," Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id icily $#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to pull
out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rchi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
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$^$%^$d Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$d down, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion of
shock on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nsion r$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$ urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$p b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
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%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. "Mr. $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright, I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmly, holding th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ir g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "I lost my p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Atl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I know how h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd it is. I didn't know Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ll, but I do know sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ forgott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. "

Mrs. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright bl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nos
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%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r," sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nti$#$%^&*)
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Mr. C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright p$#$
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$^$%^$d his wif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssion

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pl
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his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
just mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rli%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. I know h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$'s suff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring. "

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$join
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
crowd.

I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. "Did you comp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$l th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m? " I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sting bitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r

in my mouth.

"No!" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pl$#$
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$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shion%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
kindn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. Now, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, tugging m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llroom.
Luckily, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& crush of bodi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lighting w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s low, so it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost impossibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cific p
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Flow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$iling, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ floor w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&x%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. Th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s hot $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cloying, with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of hundr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds of comp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ting p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rfum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s.

I put my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on K$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s should%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&x into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ltz. But I still f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt jumpy. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s?

Page 34

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"M%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ too. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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mouth. I couldn't h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp it. With my ind
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%^$ drop off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r bow-sh
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d mouth. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I put my fing
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in my own mouth. It t$#$%^&*)
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$d sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss of punch.

"But why?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
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$d, g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nuin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ confusion r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gist%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#
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$^$%^$.

"B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id simply.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ took th
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
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%^$^$%^$r to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r icy fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.
"I'm lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ his littl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ sist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Y know

ou this. "

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I
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ti%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to him. Y ou $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, dipping in tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mingly without $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
y, too, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to worry
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtbr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k, but th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y still l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ugh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Why
couldn't I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll? Why did I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to doubt
mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf? I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. A d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk curl h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ loos
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r updo. I tuck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lishing
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ silky f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n my fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.
Longing cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p brown %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lings of guilt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd un%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nish%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king my h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssing
it to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k.

Through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ crowd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor, I
spott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, Mr. C
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtwright, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ Found%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs whisp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring furiously in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"No," I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d huskily. "L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's go hom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

I gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whirl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor
until w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kitch%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ busily pr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^p#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$shm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts. H
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd in h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ kitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n--much to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ confusion of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xit%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sprint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night, oblivious to th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cold $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shri
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ks of l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r from
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsion, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d just
run out on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ soci$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&son.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ti%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Lockwoods' st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Alfr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no doubt pl$#$%^&*)
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oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts. "Aft%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r you, my l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, lifting K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ist $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. I hoist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf up to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ driv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's s%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whip, which imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to st
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt clip-clopping in th

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ction of hom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I grinn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning of fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dom in front of us, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s intoxic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting. No h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving to sn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. No skirting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts. Just hours of unint%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rrupt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d bliss.

"I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you!" I y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ wind stol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s soon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft my mouth. I im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling with
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, flo
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting through th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world until %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson in %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry town kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w of my lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stood up in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r curls whipping wildly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you, too!" sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shout%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n coll$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into giggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

By th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ both sw %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ty $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d-ch %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, I pull %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dr %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss off h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$r slim fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$iz%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by my p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssion, g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly
r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n my t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck.

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you
doing?" Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply.

"I'm just . . . " Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I doing? Pl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cting? Trying to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
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$^$%^$? "I gu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to
know how you f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$l wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n you . . . "

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bit h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lip. "M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ som%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y you'll find out, my innoc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt, sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y b$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ snow-whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
goos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-down pillow. "But right now, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt is you. "

I l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y down n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, tr#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r chin with my ind%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$x fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I put my lips to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rs. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kiss w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s so soft $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd min%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ combin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n ours%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. W%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xplor%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r's bodi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
first tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ dim light of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lity %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion, just p$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd consuming.

Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t night, I would h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to consum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&im m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r own. I would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dly off%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up my n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck if it m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ could h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lock%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mbr#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll of %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnity.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 23

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Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t night, though, th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mbr# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ did %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ml%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ss sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$p. But my mind $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd body j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$n w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fuln%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss wh%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging sound th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rb%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through my limbs.

"Murd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rs!"

"Kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs!"

"D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons!"

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ words flo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n

window, ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt-lik%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt to
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ shutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Outsid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
pond, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sound of rifl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
firing. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk bodi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, lik%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm of locusts d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding upon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cotton fi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld.

"V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s! Kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs!"

I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out mor
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
words from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngry ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
crowd. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to b%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st fifty m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nd#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. Fifty drunk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngry, murd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rous m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. I gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s should%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

"W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up!" I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntly.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t up with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s look
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hug%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sock%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t is it? Is %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything ok$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y?" H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fing %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs flutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ckl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"No, it's not ok$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y," I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brig$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is out. Th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rching for v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d right now. " I point%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $lling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd shouts w %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night, fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ching tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night sky lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. F%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r shot through m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. This w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't suppos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning-- not y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slipp%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
tucking th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ quilt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round
h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r body, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng. "Y f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r voic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

our

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. It couldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t for n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r is not
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ typ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^vi#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&blish%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. "

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply. "Y ou promis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you would do som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing. Y h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to ou stop this. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n don't know wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fighting, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y don't know how d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous this is. If th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p doing this, p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t hurt. "

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, rubbing my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pounding h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shouting gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r now; it s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mob w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssing forw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd--or p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rh $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps disp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rsing. I wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d if this w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st spurr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by liquid cour$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Not from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but from who%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&unch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks. " K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t min%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "If th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir suspicions, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntion it to K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ting. " I p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mob w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ind%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ginning to disp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$coming sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ky dots in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inky bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck night. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mingly gon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

For now $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st. But by n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's inv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntion. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'd h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& list of v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. And th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y'd find %^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry singl%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my tongu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
my skin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cho of wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Found%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs B$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. I suck%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
finding th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lty. Hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n.

I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pping h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tight %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mbr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'm not sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ how long w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. But $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&int light of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ morning c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ windows, I stood up.

Page 36

"I will stop it, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I will prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct you to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th. I sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r it. "

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 24

S%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 25, 1864

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n conqu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll.

But c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n it conqu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons--d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vils?

I do not %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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know th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ truth. Onc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ do%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ un$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ny K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s goodn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.

It is my duty $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ to my convictions $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Now is th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins. I will m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. For th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y cri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hum$#
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t

living room, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd knock %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rply on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door to F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's study.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in!" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's muffl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n put my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ knob, F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r swung th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n hims%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$lf. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ilor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d j$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sprig of v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in in th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l, but I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of b%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ing cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sport%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d s$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lt-$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd-p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r stubbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd his %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bloodshot

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"I didn't s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into his study. "I hop%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss mob. "

"No. " I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d vigorously, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Did this m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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town, with X's ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r c%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xtinguish%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's," but h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ didn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s thinking.

"So th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . . " "Will h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss?" I $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ conv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rs#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion with K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "It
works. Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n tink%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ring with it. "

"Oh. " A w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of horror rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d through m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. If it work%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no doubt F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would find K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "How do you know th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it works?"

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd roll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up his p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. "B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it do %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id simply.

"C$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk to you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, hoping my voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^tr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d non%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. An im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, giving m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth to lock %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s with F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sit down, St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r comm
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rch%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r wingb
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck ch$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ booksh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stood up
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of br$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndy on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pour%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss for hims%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I took th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tumbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld it to my lips, t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tiny, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost imp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ptibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ sip of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ liquid. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my cour$#

$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ight $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t him. "I h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ conc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rns $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout your pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "

"Oh? And why is th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t?"
F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst his ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir.

I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rvously took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gulp of
br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndy. "W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssumption th$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vil $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. But wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t if th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's not tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"
I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, willing mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lf to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r snort%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "H$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ contr$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ry?"

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "Of cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ not. But why t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$? Y t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught us

ou diff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntly. "

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F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sigh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to his d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
pouring mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndy. "Why? B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$st p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rts of h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
know how to control your mind, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$duc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your spirit. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stroy
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "

I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r liquid in my gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll you, son, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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bring sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry muscl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my body coil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$iv%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngry flurry of words th$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to fly from his mouth. I st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$j %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly into my gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss. I h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl, $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&. I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$curing my own h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy futur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, F$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s sn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. To my surpris%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "I suppos%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I could giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r som%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thought. "

Cool r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $f flood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my body, $#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I'd just jump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would
giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
thought! To som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th$#$%^&*)(*&^
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$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ much, but from my stubborn f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, it m
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything. It m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
for K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. For us to
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his gl
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "To f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily. "

"To f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily," I %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cho%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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which comp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to do th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 25

Excit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nt cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through my v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I stol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out
of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w-dropp%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I slid p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st Emily, who h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door op%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bound%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs. I no long%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to find
my w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y to K$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$droom, sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cotton nightdr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntmind
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly swinging $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cryst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ckl#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sp$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moonlight.

"I think F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rsu#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll off th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ si%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. At l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$'s willing to t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk. I know I'll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ his
mind," I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^xcl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&im%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
twirling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

room.

I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p with gl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, for h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to mirror my own. But inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dis%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ng#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$lf from my grip $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cryst$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$r nightst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd.

"I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w you w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n for th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ job," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, not looking $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $.

"B%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, un#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sist.

Fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly K$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$d. "Y n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$d to stop

ou comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring yours %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. " Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd gr$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips. I shiv%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with pl%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my body tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tightly, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck through th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thin cotton of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r nightdr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d my lips, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n my j$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w, running h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r lips, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r light, down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ of my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. I mo$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pull%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n clos%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding to f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll of m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
plung%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th
into my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. I l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$t out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& str$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp of p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^cst#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my
skin, f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w blood from
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& thous$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kniv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pi
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rcing my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ck. Still I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tightly,
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting to f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mouth on my skin, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting to fully submit mys%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bit m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s on fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gony %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. A sm$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m of blood
trickl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lip, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
mouth twist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$xcruci$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. "V%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d, st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pping b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd until sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
coll$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ps%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you don
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I put my
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st, my lips
to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mouth, trying d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ly to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. But sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ push%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, writhing on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, clutching h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
mouth. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing tortur%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n uns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. T%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gony spill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
from h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"Why did you do this?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clutch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th slowing into guttur$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sps. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nguish%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d cry from K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt lik%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my
own h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt.

"I didn't! F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" I shout%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dizzying %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts of th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning occurr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. My br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndy. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w .

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r from
downst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$n F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r burst in.

"V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ro$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d, holding up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&
crud%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ writh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

floor in p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, shri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$king in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& high-pitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" I shout%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, holding my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his boot to prod K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs kicking in opposit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctions.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll to my kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s body clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$shri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s rolling b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck so $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Fo $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r blood-c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lips, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bid $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in
horror $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t go, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r body f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lling to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning
thud.

I inch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, sitting on my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$iling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I
couldn't f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r.

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K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r high-
pitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r prodd
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
with his st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up --fo
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
mouth, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngs b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s wild $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd uns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing--b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lling b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& writhing pil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$.

Bil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
in my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. Who w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s this monst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to my f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. "Don't you s
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, St%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n? Don't you s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"

I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk curls w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d by sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bloodshot, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$th w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
with fo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ body w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king. I didn't r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cogniz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Go g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. T%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ll him w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

I stood tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsfix%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in horror, un$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction. My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d pound%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, my thoughts whirl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& confus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Right? So why now did this . . . cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ disgust m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?

"I did not r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my sons to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, shoving $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bundl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in in my shirt pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. "Now go!"

My br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p r$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sps. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly
stifling, unb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I
couldn't br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, couldn't
think, couldn't do $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything. All I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$w w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I couldn't st$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ing in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t room
for on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$cond long%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Without $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r or $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ writhing on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ floor, I rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps thr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 26

I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nnot s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y how long I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
night w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cold, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s though
it w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
pounding in my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, in my br$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, in my f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I occ$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sion$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wound on my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, which w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s still bl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding. Th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
touch, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt dizzy wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r I put
my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on it.

With %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch footst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d: K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, bloodst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d fo$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m coll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
mouth; F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. M%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s blurr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, so I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d-
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, shri
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$king monst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rson who'd lung%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th, who'd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond, who h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&unt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my dr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king hours. I shiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d uncontroll$#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd lost my footing, tripping ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch. I l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dirt, on my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tch%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dly, until
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ iron-lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my mouth dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d.

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout to di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I didn't know who I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, or wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I should b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
doing. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
upsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ down, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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dizzy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k, sur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#

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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I did, I would c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$struction. This w$#$%^&*)
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ult. All of it. If I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t . . . I forc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to c
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch my br%^&%^
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stood up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in.

As I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in in my pock%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
nostrils. Its sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d through my body, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ming to cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r my h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd imbu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
my limbs with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ful %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rgy. I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ft on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dirt p$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, surpris%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s choosing, but for th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ first tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ks, I f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctions.

I burst into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$riff's offic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s s$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t with his f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up on th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sk, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p. In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ holding c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town
drunk, J%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^mi#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h Bl$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s snoring loudly, obviously sl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping off $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d night $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&loon. No$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& young offic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

r, w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso nodding off on $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir outsid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll.

"V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s! Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t V%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rit#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&using Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff
Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h to simult$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ously sn
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p to $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntion.

"L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's go. Follow m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h!" h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd follow b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$hind with St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. "

"Y sir," No$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, jumping to his f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& club from $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hook on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it to m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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nois%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ringing th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$riff's offic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp. Pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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$%^$?" J%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^mi#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h slurr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, both h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h shook his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd hurri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$dly r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n through
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ building, his boots %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$choing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n floor b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms. I follow
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him, stopping to w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&stily hitch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d two hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long iron w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on!" No$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d imp$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ti%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ntly, holding his whip.

I jump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up onto th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$xt to No$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
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$^$%^$ cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whip, c
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&using th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to g$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llop $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ck sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hill $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd into town. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s in nightcloth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd rubbing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ir %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s, som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hitching hors%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gons $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

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%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, ov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, until his voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost brok%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I
should h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp. But I couldn't. Inst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r grip my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wind
whipp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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clopping of hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$ing flung op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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townsp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir nightcloth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbing rifl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s,
b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pon th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
could find. As w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through town, I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&poth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
tightly. Could Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& $#
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t hom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? If
so, I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rning.

No. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so strongly, it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it in my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r hims%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ things right for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd if $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m . . . "Att$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" I y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, my voic %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his
words sounding lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sky. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moon
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tiny sliv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd clouds obscur%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny hint of st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rlight. But sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$nly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hill, I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w V%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rit#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lit up lik%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ morning, with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ porch, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling.

P$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&stor Collins stood on
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ porch swing, c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lling out pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, $#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him,
kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling
on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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to him w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Honori$#$
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$^$%^$lls, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lling to $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nyon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
who would list%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. Old M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Robinson
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s br$#$%^&*)(*&^
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$%^$ning to burn down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I jump%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d off th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
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%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it stopp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "For your prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ction," sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, proff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& br$#$%^&*)

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"Excus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$," I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ho$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly, $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
hord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, using my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$lbows, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs. I h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngry voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs.

"I will t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r! W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'ll l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd you won't s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ith%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of us $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s low $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ominous $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s incoming thund%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r.

"Ungr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ful!" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ro$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning cr
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. I bound%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, slump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
doorw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& trickl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ of blood oozing from his t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
door h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d cr$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ imp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct of D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's body.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon!" I c$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
d, f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lling onto my kn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s n%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon tri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to struggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
his f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I
winc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood
flooding from his t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

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F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r stood, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you for g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$tting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$riff, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Y did th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
right thing.

ou Unlik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your broth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd him, $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, sur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
would hit him $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. But inst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ str%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out his
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. "St$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up, D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. "

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon sl$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ stood on his own, wiping th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ blood from his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#

$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of his h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. List%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, ignoring th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look of pur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d on D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's
f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. "Y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$witch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon . . . by th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t

ou K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But now
sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd you must sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ with wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's right.
I show%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rcy, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ . . . " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngry mob b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$yond it.

"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon hiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ storm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ brush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
hitting m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd with his should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&irs.

From insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ room, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gonizing shri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff?" F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r c$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d, swinging op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door to K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. I g
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r muzzl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$gs bound tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy," Sh%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id grimly. "W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$'ll t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ list. Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$rt's got th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd is rounding up th%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in town. By d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ybr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k, w%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ will h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rid th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town of this scourg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, pl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xpr %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssion in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $s. But wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t could I do? Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lost to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ now.

I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 27

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$s. Right now, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w how long th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods,
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%^$ pond. I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on my h%^&%^
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his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
wild, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Jon$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t his inv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntion $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost in disb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. My comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss is pointing, but I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lookout. "

"Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n!" I y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting. "I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n't . . . I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to find . . . "

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh of whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his bow to his should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "Who go%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ringing lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rion b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll. Inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly, h%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^
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$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w%^&
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th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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$d in horror, not w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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hoping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ roots. My %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wood%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d$#$
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$^$%^$ss $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^l#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on $#
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$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tly.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
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%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd his d$#
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t his t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s bord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by crust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
blood, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of his
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
cloudy.

"Y cow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd," h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, dr#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wing his knif%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

ou from his pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t.

"No. " I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. "Don't hurt m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"Don't hurt m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ mock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^
%^#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& high-pitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$w you'd t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll F$#$%^&*)(*&^
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntu$#
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why K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trust%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t.
Why sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d you wouldn't turn h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in. Why sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
you. " His voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brok%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ word
lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't
look d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous or h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ful. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d brok
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, no. No. No. " I
k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p
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word $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my mind whirl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$? I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mom%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d st
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. You must lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'ll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tog%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. You h$#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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limbs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd up to my br
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r. But now, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I thought of h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n
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"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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comp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
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%^$^$%^$ I lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I f%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pth of my soul, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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Until I look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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ground. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$d: D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon lov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, or m
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
of, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I'd s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lying bound on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ floor, fo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mouth, I'd f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& stom$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch-turning r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$vulsion. But D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
for K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$nd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r curr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon lov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so much th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$pt th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,
inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding it didn't %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$xist. And in ord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ truly h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy, D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.
Now I und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rstood. I n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon.

In th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ils $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s fill
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
gunpowd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. "D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. " I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his n$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n incr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sing urg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ncy. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d up, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs in his %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, thr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning to
spill out. Not sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Moth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d I s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon cry.

"I'll h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp you s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I know you lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I will h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$lp. " I k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ word h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if it w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sort of ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm. Pl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I pl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my
mind $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I look%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of
sil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
Fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon off%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost imp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ptibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ nod.

Page 40

"Ok$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y," h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d voic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, cl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sping my wrist $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gging m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 28

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct now," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ of tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ fi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st floor w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s slick with l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no sound, not %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls.

I'd sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st minut%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cking my br$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, trying to think of som%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y to s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But I couldn't. Our only
hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for P
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Ann$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n focus
on fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ing K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It would b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ incr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$dibly d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rous. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

"Y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s," I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$pli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&uthority I did not f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l. "Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$ you r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy?" Without w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iting for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, I d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ftly mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st bord
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, guid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&int sound of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngry shouting. I could s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ outlin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon cr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt by my sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ burst of
fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rupt from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but D
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon simply gl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ strid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt voic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt.

"Found $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!"

I cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st, until I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& full vi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w of
Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n sl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mming H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nry from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ polic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon. No$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld on
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms, whil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r gu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd I didn't r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$cogniz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld out
his comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss, frowning.

"St$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ him!" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ gu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd dr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w his b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd thrust it into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r of H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nry's ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$st. Blood spurt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nry shri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nry
slump%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to his kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s wid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd st$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring down $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t lodg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in his
body. I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, both of us r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lizing th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ didn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon bit
his lip, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in this tog
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Ev
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ oft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d diff%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly, wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n it count%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thought th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t--th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ shorth$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd communic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion w%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs--would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t would s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ us, $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd would s$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s!" I y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pths of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ found on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$! H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Inst$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly, No$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r gu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir grip on H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $nry $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd us, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yon%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
pointing d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$p into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two gu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.
"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dow, but h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r. " As if to illustr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ his point, D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sticky p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th of blood th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d pool%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
onto my coll$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rbon%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ck. I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
own h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t spot in surpris%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'd forgott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t K$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d bitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tim%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&go.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two gu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly. "Y
boys shouldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

ou without w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pons. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon," without w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pons. W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got som%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon," No$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rging into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.

"Good," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
his br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th. "L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's go.
And if you l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ down, I'll kill you," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon. I follow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him, moving wholly by $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^n#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ungu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon. Low mo$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ns c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon kick%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt up to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tform. I follow%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gging wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&crid, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& combin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion of blood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd smok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
Bodi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s writh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$d in corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, but th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pitch-bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king it impossibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ to t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s or
hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ns or $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& combin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
two.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon hiss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ning down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd roughly touching %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bodi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in
his s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rch for h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to not l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh out, to not spit in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
to not st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ vill $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inous %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ll h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r I hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ got %^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^x#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctly wh$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$rv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon?" th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$.

"K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'm h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," D$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon whisp%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, m$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king his w$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$nd of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon. I continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$d to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if glu%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spot. As my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&djust%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dim light, I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing things th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rribl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything I'd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in my worst dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms. On th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& doz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n bodi
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
of p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
who I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cogniz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d from $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round
town. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nry, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^gul#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&loon, $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Dr. J$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Som
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
bodi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rs h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d muzzl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir mouths, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t bound $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir
mouths s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$mingly froz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in wid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ O's of horror; som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ simply curl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy d%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sight ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything. I
took off my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$lt down roughly, pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying to God or who%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would list%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m. I r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Ann$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&'s kitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n-lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dull f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r in P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rl's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Y th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y couldn't liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, why did F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ to condon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this brut$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tm%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt? No on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this, not %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n monst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$rs. Why couldn't it b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough to simply run th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$m out of town?

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt down, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd his sid%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lying on h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, rop%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s binding h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
must h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n cov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rribl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ burns on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of skin th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ twin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
A l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk cov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with dri
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d blood.

I stood b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, not w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting to touch h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r or %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n look $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t to
work untying th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ muzzl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I couldn't h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp
but notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$th, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngs, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tru
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
obvious in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I'd n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly
brush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir off h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd slowly l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in to kiss h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lips.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ simply. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it. And w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs strok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon cri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r coll$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rbon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t this w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s tru%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. As th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y continu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my knif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out of my pock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to cut th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t bound h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I work%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d slowly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fully, knowing th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ddition$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l cont$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
rop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s would c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in.

"Hurry!" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon whisp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
sitting on his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ work.

I fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sigh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kily, shrugging h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sur%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y still
work%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp!" cri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
thin wom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I didn't r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cogniz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s huddl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in

th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck of th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'ll b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, lying through my t%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th. W%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wouldn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. D$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sc#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to . . . w%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll, I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ struggl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. D$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon inst$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd support %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fr $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gil%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ body.

Just th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd footf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon.

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"Esc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!" on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "W%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckup. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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hoping th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t p%^&%^
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I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xplosion of gunpowd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shot. A loud w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ night $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir, follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d quickly by $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r booming shot. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt in my thro $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, I r$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gon, $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy knowing wh$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'd s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon!" I cri%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y on th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground, blood oozing from his gut. Y$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nking off my shirt, I put th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wound to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but still I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bric to his ch %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. "Don't shut your %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, broth%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. St$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y with m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
shot ringing out, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sound of my body
thudding to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s prodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
with boots $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sticks.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rything w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s qui%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. So th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n . . .

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$llo?" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ho$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ly.

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. I f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind
my b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. I r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d I w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$, f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cotton
shirt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n lin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$n p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts, cloth%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s I didn't r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$cogniz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my own. And though th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ old, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. I struggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d to st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd, but th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
surprisingly strong, h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ down by my should%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. "Y ou'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long night. "

I blink%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&djust%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ light, I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$long
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to Emily.

"Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id in wond%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ugh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& low, l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zy chuckl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"I should b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t to you. How $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling?" sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
bringing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& tin cup of w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r to my lips.

I dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk, $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ cool liquid to trickl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ down my
thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. I'd n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything so pur%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, so good. I touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^%^
$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d bit m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd smooth. I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&stily y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shirt op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n,
popping s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l buttons in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ proc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.
My ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s smooth, no hint of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t
wound.

"K%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p
drinking," Emily cluck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
might do to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r child.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon?" I $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d roughly.

"H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " Emily point%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r chin to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door. I follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ outsid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dowy figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sitting by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring, just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"But how . . . "

"Notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your ring. " Emily t$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. On my
ring fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ming l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pis-l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zuli ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
ins%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t in silv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$

%^$r. "It's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dy $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction.
ins%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t in silv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r. "It's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dy $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ction.
K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it for you th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
night sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you. "

"M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
dumbly, onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in touching my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ck, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing my fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs to drop to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ smooth ston%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ring.

"M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Y
ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, St
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsform$#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& doctor di$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gnosing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ti%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt with
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rmin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l illn
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.

I nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rstood wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Emily w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ying, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though it might $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& compl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly diff%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Tr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsform$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion?

"Who found m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, st#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rting with th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ qu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stion I c$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout.

"I did. Aft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ shots w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$ fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on you $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd your broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ burn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
down. P%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. Not just v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "
Emily shook h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ply troubl%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y
brought $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ church $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd burn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Including h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
impossibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to compr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd.

"Did sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
touching my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck.

"Y But in ord%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to compl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsition,

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. you must f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. It's $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& choic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. K$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pow
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$struction $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, but %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r victims th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t choic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d Ros$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn. " I kn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w it in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y I'd
known D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon lov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cloud h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d lift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
only to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l mor%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ckn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.

"Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ did," Emily s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r f$#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inscrut$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "But th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s nothing to do with wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns. If you choos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, you c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd compl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsition, or l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t yours%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf . . . "

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"Di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?"

Emily nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s blood insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. All I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to go b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l months, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Pi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt twist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gony for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll I'd lost. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who'd lost mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

As if sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d my mind, Emily h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s tiny, but strong. I
stood up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kily w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d outsid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon turn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s shining. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rising sun, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd smok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
billow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dist$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rily qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ful, h#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning b$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r, simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon didn't $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r. And b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s doing, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r. Without both%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring to t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ off my cloth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, I dov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in. I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up for
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d out, but my mind still f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dirty.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon st$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ church burn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id ton%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssly.

"Y I didn't f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$l s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tisf$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ction or s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. I just

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. " f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p, d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p sorrow. For mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf, for D$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, for f%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$lt d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$p, d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$p sorrow. For mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf, for D$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, for Ros$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lyn, for %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$ who'd gott%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n c$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ught in this w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$b of d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$struction. F$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n right. Th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mons who w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd if you didn't fight th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n you b %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Do you know wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" D$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d bitt %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rly.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd inst$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^

$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sunlight
only with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ring on my fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I didn't w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if cont%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mpl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting my n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt
f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ding. I
didn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to liv%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

I duck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d down und%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ surf$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ pond w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cool, just lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. If this w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ful. Qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ssion, but $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso no d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

I surf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd push%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir off my f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$, my borrow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d cloth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nging off my so$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d limbs.
Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$w wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s, I f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I'll di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon nodd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s dull $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd listl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss.
"Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s
no lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ without K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

I climb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd hugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. His body f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon bri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fly
r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mbr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n hugg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his
kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, his g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fix%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& spot f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt it don%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nding up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ qu$#

$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rry. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
his r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting b$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ight or
nin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d gon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ buck
hunting. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s right
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r my moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd whil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d imm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hims%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$lf in schoolboy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntics
lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mbling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd riding hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$s, I'd clung to my f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. On%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, to ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ up,
F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r took m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods with our rifl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nt ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n hour tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& buck. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^st, w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Fin$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& spot wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ buck bowing down, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting from $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rry
bush.

"Shoot," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
guiding my rifl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.
I tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trigg
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. But $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mom

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ trigg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&by d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fi
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
buck sprint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bull
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t hit th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lly. Its
wobbly l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gs crumpl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th it, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd it f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll to
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground.

I'd run to try to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lp it, but F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d stopp%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
holding on to my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Anim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls know wh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n it's tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t's
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow it th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to do it
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, forcibly m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rching m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. I'd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. Now, w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, I und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$rstood. D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y.

"Good-by%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r," I whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 30

Though D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d to di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d unfinish%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d busin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss to
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$nd to. I m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
qu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rry $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
smok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rting to turn. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y crunch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d und
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
worn boots I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d on
my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hid%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd-s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s childr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. I
wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gr%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts, or if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpty $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I did. I wond%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d if w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r in H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd burn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, its b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$xpos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ton. S%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&byrinth w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brok%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd torch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$bris litt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ onc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$-lush l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
porch light $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s on, $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& buggy stood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& monum%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt.
Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cknowl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rribl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$riod in our town's history," Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d.

I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&is%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf up on
my kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s, p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$king through $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& spot
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ window. I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
nodding in s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tisf$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ction, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cold s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through my v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins. So this w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cy of my d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th--th$#$%^&*)(*&^

%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd of d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$g
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ soldi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. Now I kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to sp%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k to F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mor
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ whol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ truth, to know th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't symp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thiz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs, to
know th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ probl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m could
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n cur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
without so much bloodsh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd viol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"But Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ . . . ?" Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, t#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long drink from his tumbl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"Y Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?"

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s,

"It is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& triumph$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt in our town's history. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stroy%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ir bodi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s will turn to dust. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rid th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ scourg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nks to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ burning of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ church, it will n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd choic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$roism, but w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ won. Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t is your l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cy," Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$finitiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thump.

F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r nodd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his
own tumbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n stood up. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk you," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, holding out his h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
shook h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. A mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$nt l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd his c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing hitch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s riding
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. I cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$row. I
stood up, my kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$s cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ min
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 31

I cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, cringing %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry tim%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my foot hit $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& loos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
floorbo$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd or $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ky corn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. From th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
light $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hous%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I
could t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ft th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sitting room $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy in his study, no doubt
writing down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cord h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d concoct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in his own journ$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. I stood in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ door fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. His h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s snow-whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ spots on his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds. D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$spit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s I'd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rli%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt out to him. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n who'd n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r known $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sy lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd who, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r burying $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& wif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, now h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to bury two sons.

I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd him, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d j%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d upw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd.

"D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r God . . . ," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, dropping his
p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ floor with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r.

"F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, holding out my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds to him. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ stood up, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rting wildly.

"It's ok$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y," I s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ntly. "I just w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk with you. "

"Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, St%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id slowly, still g$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r you think of D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to know th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't b %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^tr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y you. "

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r on F$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's f$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bruptly turn%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to fury. "Y did b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^tr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Not only did you b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^tr#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y

ou m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, you b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whol%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town. Y should b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$

ou d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ft%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y you'v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r rising up insid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$. "Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in our d%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, you f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l only sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I $#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$thing D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon would s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, I f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt his
pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s doing this for him. I
w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s doing it for both of
us, so th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with
truth on our sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

But F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly list%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning. Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Y ou'r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m now. Isn't th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t right, St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n?" F$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, b$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cking $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$,
slowly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout to lung%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck him.

"No. No. I'll n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m. " I shook my h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, hoping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst hop%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would
b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"But you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you bl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ your l$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th. I l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft you for d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. And now I s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Y $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$m," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, his

ou b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck now $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
brick w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll.

"Y s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t shot?" I $# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d in confusion. I

ou r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&os. V$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in in th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. F %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling No $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&h pull m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ off D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rything f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ding to bl $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck.

"I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ trigg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$lf. I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it on you, $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d it on D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. And $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't %^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nough," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "Now I n%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to finish th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ job," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, his voic%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cold $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s ic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "Y kill
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d your own sons?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^
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ou my own coursing through my v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins.

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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^n#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n though h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
thought I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& monst%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ both d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to m%^&%^
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ou soon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s you sid%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. And now, to com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
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(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk forgiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you did could b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xcus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^

$%^$d with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n I'm sorry. No. No. " F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from his d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $sk $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s still d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rting to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ right, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t now it w$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hunt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, r#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hunt%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l. "Y know, it's

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ou $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bl%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssing your moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$r di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$ wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& disgr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you'v%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$com%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. "

"I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n't turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d y %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I don't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt to. I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to s$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y good-by%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I'm going to di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $, F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Y did ou wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t out to do. Y kill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. T %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs

ou spr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng from my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "It didn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this w$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Th$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt should writ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in your f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ history, th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it didn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y. "

"This is th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y it h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, lunging for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room. Swiftly, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ brok%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it in two on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ long, j$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd out tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Quickly, without thinking, I sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nding him tumbling sid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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brick w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. F$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nguish $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hit th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor. And th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$n I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w it. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s protruding from his
stom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch, blood
spurting in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll dir%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctions. I bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling my
stom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch ris%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to my ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd bil%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fill my thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

"F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" I rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to him $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt
down. "I didn't m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n to. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r . . . ," I
g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d it out
of his $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bdom%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r shri%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd imm%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^di#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly blood
gush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& g%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wound. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
horrifi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, but $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lso %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ntr#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s so r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d, so d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$p, so b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&utiful. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if it w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lling to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I'd di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond if I didn't h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood. And so, unbidd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n, I mov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ wound $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
brought my cupp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to my lips, t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sting th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
liquid $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s it touch%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my gums, my tongu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my thro
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t.

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!"
F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r ho$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly whisp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
pushing hims%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y until his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ntir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ scr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd in $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ffort
to b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wound, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n slump%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, his %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s closing.

"I . . . ," I b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& shooting, st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbing p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in in my mouth. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s wors%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n wh$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing
shot. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling of tightn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ss, follow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ns#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& million n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
sticking into my fl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sh.

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y . . . ," F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, cov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring his f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with his
h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
struggl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir. I pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
my own h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds from
my mouth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n my fing%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my t
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th,
which h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd point%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d: I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m now.

"F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, drink from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n s$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
you!" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id urg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntly, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ching down $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pulling him up to $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& sitting position $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. I took my wrist $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd brought it to my
mouth, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing my n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wly knif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$- sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th to %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sily rip th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
skin. I flinch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wound tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, who b
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y, blood continuing to gush from his
wound.

"I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n fix you. If you
drink this blood, it will h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l your wounds. Pl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" I b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
looking into F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"I'd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r di%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r pronounc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. A mom%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r his %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s flutt%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d shut $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd slump%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
floor, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pool of blood
forming $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round his
body. I pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd on his h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt, f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling it slow
until it stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 32

I turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^st#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n running, on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ dirt ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d into
town. Som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how, I f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t my f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly touch
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
ground. I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^

$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r, but my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I could run lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ this for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d to, b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ horrors I'd witn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

I tri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d not to think, tri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to block th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mori%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
from my mind. Inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d I focus%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ light touch of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I quickly pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ foot in front of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I notic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ss, I could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ mist shimm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t still clung
to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. I could h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th of squirr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ls $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbits $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y sc$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st. I sm
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d iron
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rywh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dirt ro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into
cobbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d town. G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tting
to town s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$n no tim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll, though norm$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly I tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in no l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss th$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n hour. I slow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& stop. My
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
stung $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I gl$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d slowly from l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ft to right. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ town squ$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d diff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how.
Ins%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cts cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dirt b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$tw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cobbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. P$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&int fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d off th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
Lockwood m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsion,
though it h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n built only
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$w y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&go. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s disr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^p#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^c#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y in %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything. Most p%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&siv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll of v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rywh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But inst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d of b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ing v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gu%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly pl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sc
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll-consuming $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l dizzy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd n$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only thing th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t count%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ cloying sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll of
iron.

I inh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ply, sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly
knowing th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dy $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rv#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in-induc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s in th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt. Ev
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry fib%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
of my body scr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to find th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
sourc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of it, h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to nourish mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$lf. I look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round, hungrily, my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pidly sc$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nning from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&loon down th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd of th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ block. Nothing.

I sniff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt--th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ glorious, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wful, d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mning sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nt--w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s coming clos
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. I whirl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round $#$%^&*)

(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd suck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d in my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tty
young b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rn, w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking down th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s humming to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$rs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lking un%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, no doubt b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rving $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll night. H%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d fl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skin. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sm
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ iron
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd wood smok%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd tob$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cco.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dy.

I stol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s shock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by
how loud sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
humming, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thing, %^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch un%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n footf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gist%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I couldn't h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$lp but wond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r why sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king up %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ryon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in
town.

Fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly, sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by, h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r curv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s

clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nough to touch. I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
out, gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bbing h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r by h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r hips.
Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, my voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$choing hollowly in my %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rs. "It's St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n. "

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$?" sh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r puzzl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt
quickly turning to f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mbl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
"B-but you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "

I could sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ whisk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y on h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, could s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, with blu
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins
running b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r skin, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ctic$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly swoon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
But I didn't touch h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r with my t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th. Not y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t. I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r in
my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I'd sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts
ins$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ti$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ving w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s right in my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds.

"Shhh . . . ," I murmur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "Ev%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll right. "

I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my lips to gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ skin, m
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t how sw%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd fr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nticip$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xquisit %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I couldn't t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nymor%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I curl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my lips $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd plung%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th into h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r blood rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th, my gums, spurting into my body, bringing with it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rmth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd lif%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I suck%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d hungrily, p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&using only wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt limp in my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t slow%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dull thud. I wip%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my mouth $#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^ $%^$d down $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r unconscious body, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dmiring my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndiwork: two n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t hol%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w c%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntim%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs in di$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t, but I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
soon.

I slung Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r my should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, b#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ight
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling my
f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t hit th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n through town, into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ qu
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rry.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 33

P$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moonlight d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d ov%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s
bright h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I rush%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. I r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n my tongu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r my still-sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rp f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngs, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$living
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion of my t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th pr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ssing into h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
pli$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt, yi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lding n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck.

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"You'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& monst%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r,"
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& voic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wh%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my
mind whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d. But in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clo$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k of d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, with
Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s blood coursing through my v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
words h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld no m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
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%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ni%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by no
sting of guilt.

I burst into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s qui%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, but
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll-t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd burn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
brightly. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$s, mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rily %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ntr#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d by th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ viol%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ts, bl#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks, blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s,

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n gr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns within. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&int br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th in th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ room.

"D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon?" I c$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d, my voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$choing so loudly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
rough-h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$wn b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ms th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I winc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s still in
hunting mod%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?"

I m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
hunch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& bl$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$t. I obs%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon from $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& dist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if I w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#

$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to his n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ks of grim
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long his f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. His lips
w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s bloodshot. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round him sm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&crid--lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th.

"G%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t up!" I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id roughly, dropping Alic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ground.
H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lmost-lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss body f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ll h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vily. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ir w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
blood, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lf clos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.
Blood pool%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

two n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t hol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s wh
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd
bitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r. I lick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my lips but forc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d mys%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf to l
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st of h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon.

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t? Wh$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you . . . "
D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's g$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
shift%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
"Y ou f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, shrinking %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r into th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ corn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s with his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could
som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$how %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^r#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ im$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$.

"I brought h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for you. D$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, you n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to drink," I urg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling down n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt
to him.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon shook his h%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d. "No. No," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th.

"Just put your lips to h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. It's %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sy," I co$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&x%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"I won't do it, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. T$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ning $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd closing his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

I shook my h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& gn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wing hung%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
in my b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lly. "D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, list%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
to m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is gon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but
you'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. W$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. W$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch how
simpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it is," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$fully
found th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ origin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l wound I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on Alic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. I
sunk my t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$th b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck into th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
blood w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s cold, but
still it s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I look
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, not both%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ring to wip%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from my mouth. "Drink," I urg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, pulling Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$'s body $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&long th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ floor so it w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s lying n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xt

to D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. I gr$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's b$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd forc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd h%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r body. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d to fight, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n stopp%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s tr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nsfix%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wound. I smil%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d, knowing how b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dly h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d it, how h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ could sm%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ov%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rpow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring sc %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $sir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Don't fight it. " I push%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d his b$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck so th$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t his lips w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld him th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I f %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt him t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $w h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ining str
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth, just from s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d richn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
possibility of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood. "It's just us
now. For%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r. Broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, for %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnity. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$. " I stopp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, following D$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tow$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd Alic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. Th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lung
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long, d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p drink.

Ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 34

I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tisf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ction $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon lustily dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk, his t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tiv%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sips b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$coming
gulps $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld his f$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ down to Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck. As Alic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss body gr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w
whit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lthy flush ros%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ks.

As D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon dr$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st drops of Alic
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s blood, I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ps outsid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. I gl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round in wond%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Just l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st night, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sol#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but now
I r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&liz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t it t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d with lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p of birds ov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ sound of D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd my h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rtb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ts. This spot--this whol
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world--w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s full of possibility.

My ring glimm%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ moonlight, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I brought it to my lips.
K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d giv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$n m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rn$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. F$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d told us to find our pow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, to find our pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world. And I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d, though F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$pt it.

I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p br%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ copp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt
of blood fill%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my nostrils. I turn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d t$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd strong%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w mom
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&go. I notic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tching ring on his middl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"How do you f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$l?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^d, w#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&iting for him to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon turn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. H%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt down $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd cupp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ liquid to
his mouth, w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&shing $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^mn#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nts of blood on his lips.

I crouch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$xt to him $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$dg%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond.

"Isn't it $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&zing?" I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. "It's
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& whol%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w world, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd it's ours. For%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r!" I s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, giddy. D$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I would n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to grow
old%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. N%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to di%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"Y ou'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ right," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id slowly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s if h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n unf$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mili$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ngu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'ll %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$xplor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Just think. W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n go to Europ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$, %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xplor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world, g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&w$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y from Virgini$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mori
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. . . . " I touch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d his should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon turn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s wid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. I st%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d b$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck, sudd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rful. Th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$thing diff%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$nt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout him,
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& for%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ignn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss in his d
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"Ar%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ppy now, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r?" D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon snort
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$risiv
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ly.

I took $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd him. "Y ou'd r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this whol
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king? Y ou
should b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nking m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$!"

Fury fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. "Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nking you? I n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d you to
m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ll from which I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n't %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^sc#$
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$%^$," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, spitting %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch word into th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pond. Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nly h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pull%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hug with such str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ngth th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I g$#

$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$d. "But h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r this, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d in my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. "Though w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ will b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r for $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnity, I will m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rnity of mis%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry for you. " With th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from his grip $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd sprint%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
into th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st.

As his form dis$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pp%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dows of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& singl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ crow ros%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ woods. It l%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&intiv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ shri
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n it w
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s gon%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nly, in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& world th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nts $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&go h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
possibility, I w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s utt
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rly $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lon%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.
EPILOGUE

Page 46

Octob%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r 1864

Wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I try to r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$construct th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tmom%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n I succumb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to my Pow%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$stroy%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tionship with D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, I im$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& split s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond of sil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. In th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cond, D $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round, our %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s conn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. But th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no sil%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, nor would th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in. Now I const$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ rustling of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nim$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ls in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ for
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
quick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ning of br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t occurs wh%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ny b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ing
knows d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r is n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ pitt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r-p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r my thoughts, tumbling
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd colliding $#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

If only I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n K$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into my
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. If
only I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't gon%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck to s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. If only I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dn't m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon drink. But I did. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llout of thos%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $ choic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t only grows d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd mor%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ nu$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$. And I must liv%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cons%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$qu%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of my misd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ds for %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $rnity. LUSTING AFTER MORE OF

STEFAN'S DIARIES?

TURN THE PAGE FOR A SNEAK PEEK OF BLOODLUST, COMING

JANUARY 2011. 1

It w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s Octob%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s on th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d turn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^c#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d brown, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& cold br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$z%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d whistl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in, r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^pl#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cing th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stifling h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t of Virgini$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& summ%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r. Not th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t I much f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt it. As $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$mp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my
body r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gist%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hot
blood from my l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st victim coiling through my v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ins. I stood b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ limbs
of $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ o$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& light mist swirling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round my $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nkl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s, my
shirt $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd h$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nds sticky with th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sh blood of
th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girl I c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in my
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms. My broth%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^r, D#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y pron%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$

%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ b$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, his bl$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nkly up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

It h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n d$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys sinc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ I'd l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st forc%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d him to f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. His body h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n on $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lky t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$xtur
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, blood v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls twisting d$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rkly und%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
his skin lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cks. Ev%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
now, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s I dropp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rly d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t his f%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t, I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d to dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ his right
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&cross h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r
stom$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch to k%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p him from
rolling ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r onto his b$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ it not for th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d purpl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r dr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y would h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ two lov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs holding %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ch oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

"I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ you with %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rything I $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r, though I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w his words w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt for m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ stirr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d but didn't op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s.

"Y n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d your str%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id. "Drink. "

H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd his should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt limp. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^t#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llic sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt of h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r blood hung h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&vy in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round us.

"Th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t isn't str%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ngth," h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, his %^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s flutt%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ring shut. "It's w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&kn%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss. "

"St%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^f#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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This from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ girl, Cl%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntin%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ H$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rford,
who r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$^$%^$mbling h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs. L$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, Cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sh$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Wick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry Bridg
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ g$#$
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$^$%^$s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon h$#$
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%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up for us. Sh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$'d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bodic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r blu%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ str$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in my
mind told m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$l r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r t
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, but I f
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lt nothing.

"You'r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, k%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ping his lips $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s possibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ blood th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from Cl %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntin %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'s n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ck.

"For%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r is $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& long tim%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ny wh$# $%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t you $#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I told him.

From wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ crouch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$d in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$mlock grov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, I could s%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ my old n%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ighbors milling $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round ston%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs in th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry c %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry. My h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ight%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s $#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llow%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$d m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to pick through th%^& %^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ crowd of townsp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$opl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. Honori$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& F%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lls sniff %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h$#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ndk%^&%^%^&())*()*()* %^$^$%^$rchi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$f. Sh%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$riff Forb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s k

%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pt his h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^$r. Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$rt cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch. My h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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with %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ry whisp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&thing s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ts dir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly into my %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rdrums.

M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood stood
s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^p#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ from th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ oth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs,
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ulogizing our f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r, Gius
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ --th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n who h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon, his only f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily, in cold blood. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r b%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$v%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ utt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rly,
unr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^m#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bly %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$vil, $#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd so h%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ cond%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mn%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us to d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th for trying to s$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ K$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ Pi%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ with
whom w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$'d both f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n in lov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$--th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ v
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ who'd ch$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d us to b
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Lockwood's voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ slic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d through th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&indrops th$#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d just b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$gun
to f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. "W%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tog%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r tod$#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ll to on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of
Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls' gr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st sons, Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ S$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lv$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n for whom town $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mily $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lw$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$lf. "

Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y stood b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ping hol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rth. F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r would b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ring th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ suit h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to church on Sund$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ys, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. With th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&p%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ls th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ tog%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r just $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ point wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ I'd $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ccid%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nt#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lly cut him op%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

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$^$%^$ with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st$#$
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$%^$. I could just m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&k
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ out th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
wing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d figur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bov%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ him, th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$l st$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tu%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d my
moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's fin$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&l r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sting pl
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$. Two %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mpty plots l$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y just b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$yond, wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n buri%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d.

"It sh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n't b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ possibl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to
pictur%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ this h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ro's lif%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," Lockwood continu%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d, "but in $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& portr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it in which Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ is fl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nk%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d by his
two f$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n sons, h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ro
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
B$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttl%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of Willow Cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k. " D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t out
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& low, r$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttling scoff. "Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ portr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&it h
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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mutt%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d,
"should cont$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&in th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ muzzl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ fl$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sh of F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's rifl
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. " H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
rubb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ pl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's bull
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d ripp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
through his ch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$st only $#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$k %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
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$^$%^$r.

M$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&yor Lockwood look
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d out ov%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$r his congr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^g#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tion. "A m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&c%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s d%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nd%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd only $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& br$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ f%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$

%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ris%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ ch$#$
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$%^$ng%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of prot%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$cting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll th
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ hold d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r. Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n, Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I stood should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r to should%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r $#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ thr
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t. Now w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
must h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$d Gius%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$pp%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$'s l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st words $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll to $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rms. "

Lockwood's voic%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#
$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&gg%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d with
it th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$nt of smoky, bl$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ck
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d
wood from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ d%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$stroy%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d church on th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ opposit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ sid
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ c
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ry. H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w

$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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$nsibly, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout th%^&

%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ groups of Union $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ soldi%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rs who h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n nipping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&bout our p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rt of Virgini$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& for months, but th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s no mist$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&king th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nt v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s. V$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$s lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n shot trying to fr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, lik%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$s D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd I h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$com%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$.

"I could do it," I told D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon. "I could run out th%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r out $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll of th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ir thro$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ts b%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$for%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$w it. "

"Wh$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t's stopping you, broth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r?" h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$ hiss%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d. I kn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^ $^$%^$w his %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ncour$#$%^&*)(*&^%# $%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt c$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ only from th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ possibility of m%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ dying in th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ct.

I h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ld my br%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$ %^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th $#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd list%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon's p$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nting, to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ droning li%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s rising from F$#$%^&*) (*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $r's plot, $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd to som %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ kind of clicking, lik%^&%^ %^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&tch or $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& fing%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^rn#$ %^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&il t$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&pping $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&inst $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&usol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$um w $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ll. I w$#$%^&*)(*&^ %#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&sn't us%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^ $d to th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&wn%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ss of my s%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s; th %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ world g$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$ %^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^

%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ so much mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& v$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ th$#
$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n it h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hum$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n.

"Com%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$," I s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id, putting $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rm $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&round him. "L%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$t's g%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t on%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&st look $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t Mystic F$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lls' fin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$st citiz%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ns. "

H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ didn't s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nything but l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d into m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$, $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&llowing m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ to hold him up $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mov
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d from Cl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntin%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$'s bl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ding body tow$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rd th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ gr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
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%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$. W%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ w%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ just $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& m$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&usol%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$um $#

$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& hundr%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d y$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&rds from F$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's gr$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&v%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$ wh%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n Lockwood introduc%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt to r
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$cit%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ $#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& pr$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r.

Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$rt lick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$d his lips. As h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ r%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d som%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ pr
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*
%^$^$%^$r or $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&noth
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r out loud, I notic%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clicking
onc%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ mor%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$. It pick%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up in sp%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d $#$%^&*)
(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s w%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ n%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&r%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ crowd.

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Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ clicking w$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&s now $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& st%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&dy, insist%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$nt r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ttl%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ --$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd it s%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$m%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d to b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ coming
dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ctly from Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n's h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd. Th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$n,
with my moth%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r's wings str%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$tch%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d wid%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ b%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$hind him,
Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^
%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n Gilb%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$rt consult%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^
$^$%^$ clicking obj%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ct in his p$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&lm.

My blood r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n cold. Th
%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ comp$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss. Jon$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n h$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&d cr%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$d $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& comp$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ss th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&t, r$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r th$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n pointing north, id%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ntifi%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d v$#$
%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mpir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*

%^$^$%^$s.

Sudd%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^nly, Jon#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&th$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n look%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d up.
His %^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$y%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$s
lock%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d on D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ inst
$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ntly.

"D%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$mon!" H%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$ l%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$t out $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&n unholy shri%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$
%^$k $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&nd point%^&%^
%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$d in our dir%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^
$ction.

"I think h%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$ m%^&%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^
$%^$$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ns us, broth%^&
%^%^&())*()*()*%^$^$%^$r," D$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&mon s$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&id with $#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(& short l$#$%^&*)(*&^%#$
%^&*((&*(*&&*(&*()&*(&ugh.